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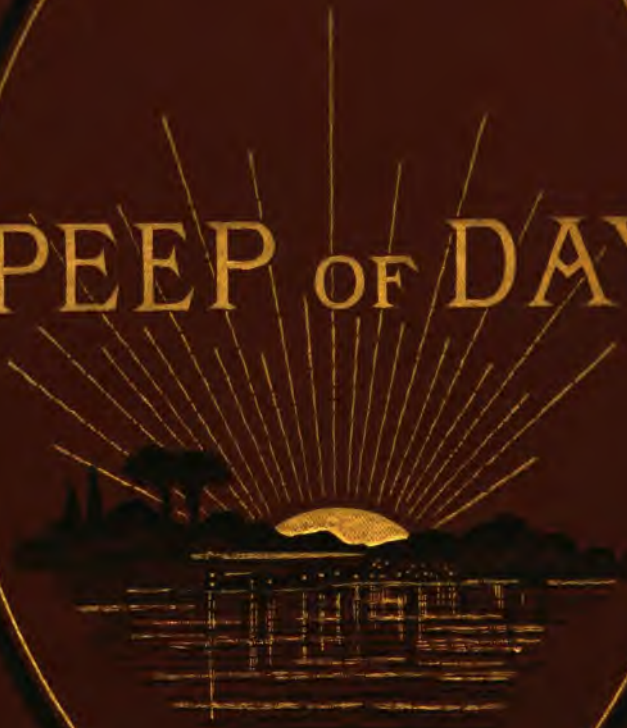
# PEEP OF DAY



JESUS AMONG THE DOCTORS.

THE

# PEEP OF DAY

OR,

A SERIES OF THE EARLIEST RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION
THE INFANT MIND IS CAPABLE
OF RECEIVING.

WITH VERSES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SUBJECTS.

'Truly the light is sweet; and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun.'—ECCLES. xi. 7.

Four hundred and second Thousand.

LONDON:
HATCHARDS, PICCADILLY.
1873.

2524. e. 30.

BODLEIAN LIBRARY
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OXFORD.

LONDON:
Printed by JOHN STRANGEWAYS,
Castle St. Leicester Sq.

# PREFACE.

THIS little work aims to be the very least of all;—not in *size*, but in the humility of its contents. It aims at the superlative degree of littleness; and in this point seeks to resemble the least watch ever made,—the least picture ever painted,—the tiniest flower that ever grew. It desires to be among books as the humming-bird among birds.

As soon as a child's mind is *capable* of receiving *systematic* instruction, this humble work attempts to convey it.

From a very early period a pious mother will, by *casual* remarks, endeavour to lead her child to the knowledge of his Creator and Redeemer; and in due time she will impart *systematic* instruction. It may be at *three* years of age—it may *not* be till *five*—that the child is prepared to listen to these little lessons. But—sooner

or later—he will give evidence of his immortality by willingly hearkening to discourse concerning the INVISIBLE,—the ETERNAL,—the INFINITE.

The simplicity of the language may seem unworthy of the sublimity of the subject treated of in these pages; and some may smile at the contrast;—but the little one will not smile—except with joy to hear of his Heavenly Father, and of his Incarnate Redeemer; for the merry inmates of the nursery are capable of tasting higher pleasures than toys and dainties can afford.

# THE AUTHOR'S APOLOGY.

WHEN a new work, however insignificant, appears, it is natural to inquire why it was written; and it is natural for the writer to desire to prove that there was a sufficient cause. The present work attempts to impart religious instruction to the infant whose faculties are just opening. But some may reply—'Is not the attempt premature? Is an infant capable of understanding sacred truths? Or, if capable, is it desirable that it should be taught?'

Upon trial, it will be found that children can *understand* religious truths at a very early age; although the exact period is of course very different in different individuals. The sophistries, which sinful inclinations suggest to the mind as life advances, do not obscure the infant intellect. The child easily perceives that there must be a God, and acknowledges His power to be great; the only objections he raises to any doctrine are such, in general, as have never been solved by man, while he finds no difficulty in believing that God's understanding is infinitely superior to his own.

And will it be deemed *undesirable* to instruct the infant in religion, when it is remembered that impressions made early on the mind are the most vivid and the most durable;—that the readiest access is obtained to the young and tender heart;—that wrong notions will be conceived by the ever-busy intellect, if left uninstructed; and that, life being uncertain, the eternal happiness of a child, already knowing good from evil, *may* be endangered by delay?

If these arguments be admitted, the next question will regard the *means* of imparting religious instruction to young children.

Shall they learn simple and short catechisms? Shall the Scriptures be read to them with explanation? or shall a few general truths be briefly stated to them?

Our minds are so much darkened by sin, that when we would ascertain our duty concerning spiritual things, we shall often find assistance by examining what we should do in an earthly matter of an analogous kind.

Suppose, then, a father compelled to leave his wife and child, and to sojourn in a distant land. In parting, he commits the unconscious infant to the care of the mother, and thus expresses the feelings of a father's heart—'I know not when I shall return; the time may be near or far distant. This is my earnest request, that whenever I do, I may find my child acquainted with my love for it, and prepared to love me. Inspire it, if possible, with a desire to please me, and mould its character in conformity to my views. To the ingenuity of your affection I confide the task.'

How would the mother betake herself, in pursuance of this request? Would she take the letters of the father, written to herself, and read them to the child, while yet its faculties were hardly unfolded? Would she not fear by this method producing weariness and disgust? Much less would she attempt, by a series of written questions and answers, to be learnt by heart as a task, to interest the child in its father. Nor would she content herself by giving a *general* description of his goodness.

Would not a mother, thus circumstanced, often talk to the child of its father, in language suited to its capacity; relate anecdotes of his virtue, such as the child could comprehend; repeat the gracious sayings he had uttered, yet translating them into language intelligible to the child? How carefully would she guard against producing confusion, by entering into complicated details; while she would love to dwell upon the most minute incidents that would arrest infantine attention! She would fear the consequences of giving set lectures—but would intersperse narrative with conversation, carefully watching favourable opportunities for dropping a reflection. Verses in the father's praise would be familiar to the baby's lips; yet even those would be taught with discretion, and not forcibly imposed. It would be the mother's aim to infuse a principle of love, and thus to prepare the child for the performance of filial duties.

And has not Christ left His infant family with us? Has He not given us a charge concerning them in the well-known words —'Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven?' Touching and compre-

hensive words! charge too imperfectly fulfilled! How often have efforts been made to bring these children to their Father's bosom, that have, in fact, driven them further from it!

Yet there are many mothers at the present time who are seeking to bring their children to Christ; and to them, as well as to the teachers of the infant poor, this little volume is presented.

But lest a fear should arise, that in adapting sacred truths to infantine capacities their awful dignity may be lowered, let us remember that the reverence God demands is principally that of the heart; and that words which excite reverence in the *child's* heart should not be condemned, because they may offend the ear of the bystander. The use of *language* in the communication of sacred truth involves vast condescension on the part of God towards man. Had He not chosen to use this condescension towards us, and even to speak as though He had passions and bodily parts, He must ever have remained to us 'an unknown God.' Compared to this condescension, how slight is any that can be used by us in instructing children!

And did our Shepherd bid us feed His lambs?
Behold, I have prepared the tenderest grass
That grows on Zion's hill. Here feeble lambs
May find sweet nourishment, and gather strength
To climb the verdant heights, where the fair flock
On richer pasture feed.* Say not *too soon*

* 'Their pasture shall be in all high places.' Isa. xlix. 9.

I urge their tottering steps. Should I forbear,
On every side deceitful strangers* stand,
And beckon them away;—in flowery paths
Awhile to sport; and then to wander long
Amidst the hills of darkness and of death; †
Where hungry beasts, in every thicket hid,
Wait to devour; ‡ and should they e'er return,
With fleeces all defiled, and bleeding feet,
The wanderers would come. O can they know
Too *soon* their Shepherd's voice, or love His name
Too soon, or in His gentle arms repose.§

Then come, my little ones, and hear me tell
Of Jesus' dying love. If God should pour
His Spirit from on high, your infant hearts
Shall thrill with tenderness: you'll run to meet
Your Shepherd's fond embrace; who shall forbid?
'Tis Jesus bids you come, and calls you His;
And who shall pluck you from that piercèd side?||

---

* John, x. 5, 8.

† 'My sheep wandered through all the mountains and upon every high hill.' Ezek. xxxiv. 6.

‡ 'They were scattered because there is no shepherd; and they become meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.' Ezek. xxxiv. 5.

§ 'He shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom.' Isa. xl. 11.

|| 'They shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.' John, x. 28.

'Tis Jesus' arms encircle you around;
In sight of all your foes, they'll bear you safe
O'er many a rugged path and dangerous steep,
To the sweet fold on Zion's summit fair.*

And have you lodged your darling in those arms,
Fond Mother? Did you, as his reason dawn'd,
And he began to muse on things unseen,
Unfold the history of a Saviour's love,
And painful death? And has that love won his?
Oh! then, should death's dark cloud arise,
And from your sight conceal his cherub form,
How sweet 'twill be to catch his parting smile,
To see the infant angel, as he soars,
Cling fondly round his own beloved Lord!

---

* 'Upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be.' Ezek. xxxiv. 14.

'He that scattered Israel shall gather him as a shepherd doth his flock. Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion.' Jer. xxxi. 10, 12.

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*As it is evident that the greatest accuracy is essential in the* FOUNDATION *of an edifice, the writer has endeavoured to prove* every *statement either by the notes or by the references* prefixed *to each chapter, both of which are intended* solely *for the use of the Teacher.*

*The hymns, also, are not designed to be learned by heart.*

# THE PEEP OF DAY.

## *LESSON I.*

### OF THE BODY.

My dear little children;—You have seen the sun in the sky.

Who put the sun in the sky?—God.

Can you reach up so high?—No.

Who holds up the sun that it does not fall?*—It is God.

God lives in heaven; heaven is much higher than the sun.†

Can you see God?—No.

Yet He can see you, for God sees everything.‡

God made everything at first, and God takes care of everything.§

God made you, my little child, and God takes care of you always.||

---

* 'Upholding all things by the word of his power.' Heb. i. 3.

† 'He ascended up far above all heavens.' Eph. iv. 10.

‡ 'The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.' Prov. xv. 3.

§ 'O Lord, thou preservest man and beast.' Ps. xxxvi. 6.

|| 'In him we live, and move, and have our being.' Acts, xvii. 28.

You have a little body; from your head down to your feet, I call your body.

Put your hand before your mouth. What do you feel coming out of your mouth?

It is your breath. You breathe every moment. When you are asleep, you breathe. You cannot help breathing. But who gives you breath?*

God does everything. God gave you this little body, and He makes it live, and move, and breathe.

There are bones in your body. God has made them strong and hard.† There are some bones for your arms, and some bones for your legs. There is a bone for your back, and more bones for your sides.

God has covered your bones with flesh. Your flesh is soft and warm.

In your flesh there is blood.

God has put skin outside,‡ and it covers your flesh and blood like a coat.

Now all these things, the bones, and flesh, and blood, and skin, are called your body. How kind of God it was to give you a body!§ I hope that your body will not get hurt.

Will your bones break?—Yes, they would, if you were to fall down from a high place, or if a cart were to go over them.

* 'He that giveth breath unto the people that are upon (*the earth*).' Isa. xlii. 5.

† 'Thou hast fenced me with bones.' Job, x. 11.

‡ 'Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh.' Job, x. 11.

§ 'I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.' Ps. cxxxix. 14.

If you were to be very sick, your flesh would waste away, and you would have scarcely anything left but skin and bones.

Did you ever see a child who had been sick a very long while?

I have seen a sick baby. It had not round cheeks like yours, and a fat arm like this. The baby's flesh was almost gone, and its little bones were only covered with skin.

God has kept you strong and well.

How easy it would be to hurt your poor little body!

If it were to fall into the fire, it would be burned up. If hot water were thrown upon it, it would be scalded. If it were to fall into deep water, and not be taken out very soon, it would be drowned. If a great knife were run through your body, the blood would come out. If a great box were to fall on your head, your head would be crushed. If you were to fall out of the window, your neck would be broken. If you were not to eat some food for a few days, your little body would be very sick, your breath would stop, and you would grow cold, and you would soon be dead.

You see that you have a very weak little body.*

Can you keep your own body from being sick, and from getting hurt?

You should try not to hurt yourself, but God only can keep your body from all harm, from fire and water, from wounds and bruises, and all kinds of sickness.†

* '(*They*) that dwell in houses of clay, which are crushed before the moth.' Job, iv. 19.

† 'The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil.' Ps. cxxi. 7.

Kneel down and say to God, 'Pray keep my poor little body from getting hurt.' God will hear you, and go on taking care of you.

1 My little body's made by God
Of soft warm flesh and crimson blood:
The slender bones are placed within,
And over all is laid the skin.

2 My little body's very weak;
A fall or blow my bones might break:
The water soon might stop my breath;
The fire might close my eyes in death.

3 But God can keep me by His care;
To Him I'll say this little pray'r:
'O God! from harm my body keep,
Both when I wake and when I sleep.'

## *LESSON II.*

### OF A MOTHER'S CARE.*

I HAVE told you, my darling, about your little body. Was your body always as big as it is now?

No. Once it was very small indeed.

What were you called when your body was very small?—A baby.

Now you can take a little care of yourself, but then you could take no care at all.

Can babies walk, or talk, or feed themselves, or dress themselves?—No.

But God sent you to a person who took great care of you when you were a baby.

Who was it?

Your dear mother; she took care of you then. She nursed you in her arms, and fed you, and took you out in the air, and washed you, and dressed you.

Do you love your mother?—Yes.

I know you do. But who gave you a mother? It was God who sent you to a kind mother.

A little while ago there was no such little creature as you.† Then God made your little body, and He sent you

* This lesson is especially adapted to *poor* children. It would be easy for a parent or teacher to speak to children of a higher class upon the same subject in an appropriate manner.

† 'We are but of yesterday.' Job. viii. 9.

to your mother, who loved you as soon as she saw you. It was God who made your mother love you so much,* and made her so kind to you.

Your kind mother dressed your poor little body in neat clothes, and laid you in a cradle. When you cried she gave you food, and hushed you to sleep in her arms. She showed you pretty things to make you smile. She held you up, and showed you how to move your feet. She taught you to speak, and she often kissed you, and called you sweet names.

Is your mother kind to you still?—Yes, she is, though she is sometimes angry. But she wishes to make you good: that is why she is sometimes angry.

Your mother has sent you to this nice school, and she gives you supper when you go home. I know she will be kind to you as long as she lives.

But remember who gave you this mother. God sent you to a dear mother, instead of putting you in the fields, where no one would have seen you or taken care of you.

Can your mother keep you alive?—No.

She can feed you, but she cannot make your breath go on.

God thinks of you every moment.† If He were to forget you, your breath would stop.

---

* 'God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince.' Dan. i. 9.

† 'Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.' Luke, xii. 6, 7.

A MOTHER'S CARE.

Do you ever thank your mother for her kindness?—Yes. You often say, 'Thank you,' and sometimes you put your arms round her neck, and say, 'I do love you so much, dear mother!' Will you not thank God who gave you a mother, and who keeps you alive? You should kneel down when you speak to God; then you should say, 'O God, how good you have been to me! I thank you, and love you.'

Would God hear your little thanks?—Yes, God would hear, and be pleased.*

1 Who fed me from her gentle breast,
And hush'd me in her arms to rest,
And on my cheeks sweet kisses press'd?
My Mother.

2 When sleep forsook my open eye,
Who was it sang sweet hush-a-by?
And rock'd me that I should not cry?
My Mother.

3 Who sat and watch'd my infant head,
When sleeping on my cradle bed,
And tears of sweet affection shed?
My Mother.

4 When pain and sickness made me cry,
Who gazed upon my heavy eye.
And wept for fear that I should die?
My Mother.

* 'I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. This also shall *please* the Lord better than an ox, or bullock, that hath horns and hoofs.' Ps. lxix. 30, 31.

5 Who ran to help me when I fell,
And would some pretty story tell,
Or kiss the place to make it well?
My Mother.

6 Who taught my infant lips to pray,
And love God's holy book and day,
And walk in wisdom's pleasant way?
My Mother.

7 And can I ever cease to be
Affectionate and kind to thee,
Who wast so very kind to me?
My Mother.

8 Ah no! the thought I cannot bear,
And if God please my life to spare,
I hope I shall reward thy care,
My Mother.

9 When thou art feeble, old, and gray,
My healthy arm shall be thy stay,
And I will soothe thy pains away,
My Mother.

10 And when I see thee hang thy head,
'Twill be my turn to watch thy bed,
And tears of sweet affection shed,
My Mother.

11 For God, who lives above the skies,
Would look with vengeance in His eyes
If ever I should dare despise
My Mother.

*Mrs. Gilbert's Original Poems.*

## *LESSON III.*

### OF THE SOUL.

HAS God been kind to dogs?

Has He given them bodies?—Yes.

Have they bones, and flesh, and blood, and skin?—Yes.

The dog has a body as well as you. Is the dog's body like yours?—No.

How many legs have you?—Two.

How many legs has the dog?—Four.

Have you got arms?—Yes, two.

Has the dog got arms?—No, it has got no arms, nor hands. But the dog has legs instead. Your skin is smooth, but the dog is covered with hair.

Is the cat's body like yours?—No; it is covered with fur.

Is a chicken's body like yours? How many legs has the chicken?—Two.

And so have you. But are its legs like yours?—No; the chicken has very thin, dark legs, and it has claws instead of feet.

Have you feathers on your skin? Have you wings? Is your mouth like a chicken's beak? Has the chicken any teeth?—No; the chicken's body is not at all like yours. Yet the chicken has a body—for it has flesh, and bones, and blood, and skin.

Has a fly got a body?—Yes, it has a black body, and six black legs, and two wings like glass. Its body is not at all like yours.

Who gave bodies to dogs, horses, chickens, and flies? Who keeps them alive?

God thinks of all these creatures every moment.*

Can a dog thank God?

No; dogs and horses, sheep and cows, cannot thank God.

Why cannot they thank God?

Is it because they cannot talk?

That is not the reason.

The reason is, they cannot think of God. They never heard of God. They cannot understand about God.†

Why not?—Because they have no *souls*, or spirits, like yours.

Have you got a soul?—Yes, in your body there is a soul which will never die. Your soul can think of God.

When God made your body, He put your soul inside. Are you glad of that? When God made the dogs, He put no soul like yours inside their bodies, and they cannot think of God.

Can I see your soul?—No; I cannot see it. No one can see it but God. He knows what you are thinking of now.‡

---

* 'Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?' Luke, xii. 6.

† 'Be not as the horse or the mule, which have no understanding.' Ps. xxxii. 9.

‡ 'Thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men.' 1 Kings, viii. 39.

Which is the best, your soul or your body?—Your soul is a great deal the best. Why is your soul the best?—Your body can die, but your soul cannot die.*

Shall I tell you what your body is made of?—Of dust. God made the dust into flesh and blood.

What is your soul made of?

Your soul, or spirit, is made of the breath of God.†

That little dog will die some day. Its body will be thrown away.‡ The dog will be quite gone when its body is dead. But when your body dies, your soul will be alive, and you will not be quite gone.§

Where would you be put if you were dead?—Your body would be put in a hole in the ground, but your soul would not be in the hole.‖

Even a baby has a soul, or a spirit.

One day as I was walking in the streets, I saw a man carrying a box. Some people were walking behind, crying. There was a dead baby in the box—Was the soul of the baby in the box?

No; its soul was gone up to God.¶

Will you not thank God for giving you a spirit? Will

---

* 'What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?' Matt. xvi. 26.

† 'And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.' Gen. ii. 7.

‡ 'The beasts that perish.' Ps. xi. 26.

§ 'Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?' Eccles. iii. 21.

‖ 'Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return unto God that gave it.' Eccles. xii. 7.

¶ 'I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.' 2 Sam. xii. 23.

you not ask Him to take your spirit to live with Him when your body dies?*

Say to God, 'Pray, take my spirit to live with Thee when my body dies and turns into dust.'

CHILD.

Tell me, mamma, if I must die
One day, as little baby died;
And look so very pale, and lie
Down in the pit-hole by his side?

Shall I leave dear papa and you,
And never see you any more?
Tell me, mamma, if this is true;
I did not know it was before.

MAMMA.

'Tis true, my love, that you must die;
The God who made you says you must:
And every one of us shall lie,
Like the dear baby, in the dust.

These hands, and feet, and busy head,
Shall waste and crumble quite away;
But though your body shall be dead,
There is a part which can't decay.

*Jane Taylor's Hymns for Infant Minds.*

What is that part which can't decay?

It is your soul.

Your body will decay; it will turn into dust; but your soul will live for ever: it will never decay.

* 'We are willing rather to be absent from the body, and present with the Lord.' 2 Cor. v. 8.

## *LESSON IV.*

### OF THE GOOD ANGELS.

You know that God lives in heaven. He has no body, for He is a spirit.*

Does He live in heaven alone?—No; angels stand all round His throne.†

What are angels?

Angels are spirits.‡ They are bright like the sun,§ but they are not so bright as God, for He is brighter than the sun.‖ The angels are always looking at God,¶ and it is God that makes them shine so bright.

They sing sweet songs about God.**

They say, 'How good God is! how wise! how great!'

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* 'God is a spirit.' John, iv. 24.

† 'All the angels stood round about the throne.' Rev. vii. 11.

‡ 'Who maketh his angels spirits.' Ps. civ. 4.

§ 'His countenance was like lightning.' Matt. xxviii. 3.

‖ 'I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun.' Acts, xxvi. 13.

¶ 'Their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.' Matt. xviii. 10.

** 'I heard the voice of many angels, saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb, &c. And every creature which is in heaven, &c., heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.' Rev. v. 11–13.

There is no night in heaven,* for the angels are never tired of singing, and they never wish to sleep.†

They are never sick, and they will never die.

They never weep; there are no tears upon their cheeks, but sweet smiles, for angels are always happy.‡

If the angels were naughty, they would be unhappy. Naughtiness always makes people unhappy.

The angels are quite good.§ They love God very much, and mind all He says.‖

They have wings,¶ and can fly very quickly.** God sends them down here to take care of us.†† As soon as God tells an angel to go, he begins to fly.‡‡ They are very strong, and can keep us from harm.§§

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* 'There shall be no night there.' Rev. xxii. 5.

† It is said of the four beasts (which certainly signify saints), 'That they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.' Rev. iv. 8. Angels '*excel* in strength.' Ps. ciii. 20.

‡ It is said of the *saints*, 'God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.' Rev. xxi. 4. And the saints will then be 'equal unto the angels.' Luke, xx. 35, 36.

§ 'God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down into hell.' 2 Pet. ii. 4.

‖ 'Bless the Lord, all ye his host; ye ministers of his that do his pleasure.' Ps. ciii. 21.

¶ 'Above it stood the seraphim: each one had six wings.' Isa. vi. 2.

** 'The man Gabriel, being caused to fly *swiftly*.' Dan. ix. 21.

†† 'Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?' Heb. i. 14.

‡‡ '(*They*) do his commandments, hearkening to the voice of his word.' Ps. ciii. 20.

§§ '(*Angels*) shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.' Ps. xci. 12.

Should you like the angels to be near you at night? Do you know this pretty verse or hymn?

> I lay my body down to sleep,
> Let angels guard my head,
> And through the hours of darkness keep
> Their watch around my bed.

You must ask God to send the angels, for they never go, except when God sends them.*

God is their Father.† They have not two fathers, as you have. The angels are the children of God, and live in God's house in heaven. When you mind what your father tells you, then you are like the angels who mind God.

The angels love us very much. They wish us to grow good, and to come to live with them in heaven.‡ When a child is sorry for its naughtiness, and prays to God to forgive it, the angels are very much pleased.§

When a little child who loves God falls sick, and is going to die, God says to the angels, 'Go and fetch that

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* 'Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?' Matt. xxvi. 53.

† 'Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? When the morning stars sang together, and all the *sons of God* shouted for joy? Job, xxxviii. 4, 7.

‡ 'Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.' Matt. xviii. 10.

§ 'There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.' Luke, xv. 10.

little child's soul up to heaven.'* Then the angels fly down, the little darling shuts its eyes, it lays its head on its mother's bosom, its breath stops;—the child is dead. Where is its soul? the angels are carrying it up to heaven.

How happy the child is now! Its pain is over; it is grown quite good;† it is bright like an angel.‡ It holds a harp in its hand, and begins to sing a sweet song of praise to God.§ Its little body is put into a grave, and turns into dust. One day God will make its body alive again.

Dear children, will you pray to God to send His angels to fetch your souls when you die?

Around God's glorious throne above
  The happy angels stand,
And ever praise the God they love,
  And fly at His command.

Their faces, like the sun, are bright,
  And sweetest smiles they wear;
They never sleep; there is no night,
  Nor need of candle there.

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* 'And it came to pass that the beggar died, and was carried by angels into Abraham's bosom.' Luke, xvi. 22.

† 'The *spirits* of just men made *perfect*.' Heb. xii. 23.

‡ 'Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.' Matt. xiii. 43.

§ 'I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps. These were redeemed from among men.' Rev. xiv. 2, 4.

But though the angels live so high,
  They love us men below,
And hope to see us in the sky
  In garments white as snow.

And when a dying infant lies
  Upon its mother's breast,
The angels watch it while it dies,
  And take its soul to rest.

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## *LESSON V.*

### OF THE WICKED ANGELS.

WHEN did God begin to live in heaven?

God always lived in heaven.*

Once there was no such little child as you, but there always was God.

Once there was no sun, but there always was God.

Once there were no angels,† but there always was God.

No one made God; God was the first of all things, and God made everything.

A very long while ago God made the angels. How many angels did He make?

No one could tell how many. There were more than could be counted.‡ They were all good and happy.

But some of the angels grew bad. They left off loving God, and grew proud, and disobedient.

Would God let them stay in heaven after they were bad?

No; He cast them out, and put them in chains and darkness.§

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* 'From everlasting to everlasting thou art God.' Ps. xc. 2.

† 'By Him were all things created that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible.' Col. i. 16.

‡ 'An *innumerable* company of angels.' Heb. xii. 22.

§ 'The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness, unto the judgment of the great day.' Jude, 6.

One of these bad angels was called Satan. He is the chief, or prince of the bad angels. He is called the Devil.*

The devil is very wicked,† and hates God. He can never go back to heaven again,‡ but he comes here where we live,§ and he brings the other devils with him.‖

We cannot see Satan, because he is a spirit, but he is always walking about, and trying to make people naughty.¶

Satan loves mischief; he does not wish to be good. It pleases Satan to see people in pain and in tears;** but it pleases him best to see them naughty, because then he thinks that they will come and live with him in his dark place. He wishes that there should be a great many

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* 'The old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.' Rev. xii. 9. 'The prince of the power of the air.' Eph. ii. 2.

† 'The devil sinneth from the beginning.' 1 John, iii. 8.

‡ 'But the angels which kept not their first estate he hath reserved in *everlasting* chains.' Jude, 6.

§ 'Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' Job, i. 7.

‖ '(*Satan*) was cast out into the earth, and his *angels* were cast out with him.' Rev. xii. 9.

¶ 'The *spirit* which now worketh in the children of disobedience. Eph. ii. 2.

** 'In mine adversity they rejoice.' Ps. xxxv. 15. 'Thou lovest evil more than good.' Ps. lii. 3. 'He loves cursing.' Ps. cix. 17. All that is said of the wicked applies in a higher degree to Satan as the author of sin, for Christ said to the wicked, 'Ye are of your father the devil, and the *lusts of your father* ye will do.' John, viii. 44.

people in hell, so he tries to make us do wicked things, and keep us from praying to God.*

I cannot tell you how very bad Satan is. He is very cruel, for he likes to give pain.† He is a liar and teaches people to tell lies.‡ He is proud,§ and wishes people to mind him more than God. He is envious, and cannot bear to see people happy.‖

The devil hopes very much that you will come and live with him when you die. He knows that if you are bad like him, you will live with him. So he tries to make you like himself. When you are in a passion, you are like the devil. When you say, 'I don't care,' you are like the devil. When you think yourself good, you are proud like the devil.

Can God keep you from minding the devil? Yes; He can: for God is a great deal stronger than Satan.¶

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* 'Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.' Luke, xxii. 31. 'For if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not.' 2 Cor. iv. 3, 4.

† Satan is called 'a roaring lion.' 1 Pet. v. 8. His 'fiery darts' are spoken of, Eph. vi. 16.

‡ 'He is a liar, and the father of it.' John, viii. 44.

§ 'All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.' Matt. iv. 9.

‖ This is proved by Satan having ruined man, and by his continuing to tempt him.

¶ 'O Lord God of hosts, who is a strong Lord like unto thee?' Ps. lxxxix. 8.

*To Teachers.*—A very young child would not understand the remainder of this chapter, except the last sentence; therefore it would be better to miss this passage when the pupil is of a very tender age.

Besides this, God is always near you, for God is everywhere. Now Satan cannot be everywhere at the same time. It is true that Satan has a great many angels who go where he tells them; and that Satan and his angels come near you very often. But God is always with you; He is before you and behind you, and on every side of you; He is about your bed when you sleep, and about your path when you walk.* Therefore you need not be afraid of Satan; only ask God to help you, and He will do so.

Satan is much stronger than you are;† but God is stronger than all. If anybody were to come to hurt you when you were alone, you would be frightened; but if you saw your father coming you would run to him, and you would not be frightened any more. Now God is our Father; He can keep Satan from hurting you. Pray to Him, and say, 'O dear Father, keep me from being wicked like the devil, and from going to hell.'‡

Satan was once an angel bright,
  And worshipp'd God on high;
But now he dwells in darkest night
  And endless misery.

Daring his God to disobey,
  He lost his happy state:

* 'Thou compassest my path, and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. Thou hast beset me behind and before.' Ps. cxxxix. 3, 5.

† 'For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers.' Eph. vi. 12.

‡ 'Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.' Jam. iv. 7.

Sinners above could never stay
  Around God's throne to wait.

Thousands of angels with him fell,
  Who own him as their king;
Hoping with us to share their hell,
  They tempt our souls to sin.

CHILD.

God, unto Thee I'll lift my pray'r,
  (He'll hear an infant cry,)
'Save me, O Lord, lest I should share
  In Satan's misery.'

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*On the subjects of the preceding Lessons.*

God lives on high—beyond the sky,
And angels bright—all clothed in white,
The praises sing—of heaven's King.

This God can see—both you and me;
Can see at night—as in the light;
And all we do—remembers too.

'Tis He bestows—my food and clothes,
And my soft bed—to rest my head,
And cottage neat—and mother sweet.

And should not I—for ever try
To do what He—has ordered me,
And dearly love—this Friend above?

I always should—be very good :
At home should mind—my parents kind ;
At school obey—what teachers say.

Now if I fight—and scratch, and bite,
In passions fall—and bad names call,
Full well I know—where I shall go.

Satan is glad—when I am bad,
And hopes that I—with him shall lie
In fire and chains—and dreadful pains.

And liars dwell—with him in hell,
And many more—who cursed and swore,
And all who did—what God forbid.

And I have not—done what I ought ;
I am not fit—with God to sit,
And angels bright—all clothed in white.

I will confess—my naughtiness,
And will entreat—for mercy sweet.
O Lord ! forgive—and let me live.

My body must—be turned to dust.
Then let me fly—beyond the sky,
And see Thy face—in that sweet place.

## *LESSON VI.*

### THE WORLD.—PART I.

GEN. i. 1–10.

THIS large place we live in is called the world.

It is very beautiful. If we look up we see the blue sky, if we look down we see the green grass.

The sky is like a curtain spread over our heads, the grass like a carpet under our feet, and the bright sun is like a candle to give us light. It was very kind of God to make such a beautiful world, and let us live in it.

God was in heaven, and all His bright angels around Him, when He began to make the world.* God's Son was with Him—for God always had a Son,† just like Himself.‡

His Son's name is Jesus Christ. He is as good and great as God His Father. The Father and the Son are God: they always lived together, and they love each other exceedingly.§ The Father and the Son are one God, and they made the world.‖

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* 'Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? and all the sons of God shouted for joy?' Job, xxxviii. 4, 7.

† 'I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When he appointed the foundations of the earth, then I was by him.' Prov. viii. 23, 29, 30.

‡ 'The express image of his person.' Heb. i. 3.

§ 'I was daily his delight.' Prov. viii. 30. 'But that the world may know that I love the Father.' John, xiv. 31.

‖ 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made by him.' John, i. 1, 3.

How did God make the world?—By speaking. First of all, God made the light. God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. No one can make things by speaking but God: God made things of nothing. He only spoke, and the light came.*

Then God made the air.

You cannot see the air, but you can feel it. The air is everywhere. You can sometimes hear the noise it makes, for you hear the wind blow, and the wind is air.

Next God put some water up very high. The clouds are full of water, and sometimes the water comes down, and we call it rain.

God made a large deep place, and filled it with water. God spoke to the water, and it rushed into the deep place. God called this water the sea.†

The sea is very large, and it is always moving up and down, and tossing itself; but it cannot get out of the large deep place in which God has put it; for God said, 'Stay there.'‡

When the wind blows hard, the sea makes a loud noise, and roars.

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* 'Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.' Heb. xi. 3.

† 'The waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled: they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.' Ps. civ. 6–8.

‡ '(*When I*) brake up for it my decreed place, and set bars and doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.' Job, xxxviii. 10, 11.

God made some dry land for us to walk upon: we call it ground. We could not walk upon the sea nor build houses on the sea: but the ground is hard, and firm, and dry.

Now I have told you of five things that God made:—

1. The light.
2. The air.
3. The clouds.
4. The sea.
5. The dry land.

Let us praise God for making such a large and beautiful world.

'Twas God who made this world so fair,
The shining sun, the sky, the air;
'Twas God who made the sea, the ground,
And all the things I see around.

When He began the world to make,
These were the mighty words He spake;
'Let there be light:' His voice was heard,
And the obedient light appeared.

The angels saw the light arise,
And with their praises filled the skies.
'How great our God! How wise! How strong!'
Such is their never-ending song.

## *LESSON VII.*

### THE WORLD.—PART II.

GEN. i. 11–19.

WHEN God made the dry land, there was nothing on it: it was bare. So God spake, and things grew out of the ground.

Trees came out of it; they were covered with green leaves of different shapes. Some were called oak-trees, and some were called elm-trees, and some beech-trees. And some trees bore nice fruit, such as plum-trees, apple-trees, orange-trees, and fig-trees.

Vegetables grew out of the earth; potatoes and beans, cabbages and lettuces: they are called vegetables.

Corn came out of it. Some corn is called wheat, and some corn is called barley, and some is called oats. The ears of corn bend down when they are ripe, and look yellow like gold.

God made the soft green grass to spring up, and flowers to grow among the grass; flowers of all colours, and of the sweetest smell. The yellow buttercup, the white lily, the blue violet, and the rose, the most beautiful of all flowers.

I have told you of five sorts of things that grow out of the earth:—

1. Trees.
2. Vegetables.
3. Corn.
4. Grass.
5. Flowers.

The world looked very beautiful when it was covered with grass and trees. But only God and the angels saw its beauty.

Afterwards God placed the sun in the sky, and bade it shine all day, and go from one end of the world to the other.* God made the moon to shine at night, and He covered the sky with stars.

You never saw anything so bright as the sun. It is very large indeed, only it looks small, because it is a great way off. It cannot fall, for God holds it up.† God makes it move across the sky. Did you ever hear this pretty verse about the sun?—

My God, who makes the sun to know
His proper hour to rise,
And to give light to all below,
Doth send him round the skies.

*Dr. Watts.*

The moon does not shine as brightly as the sun, for God lets it be dark at night, that we may rest, and sleep soundly.‡

* God demands of Job, 'Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place?' Job, xxxvii. 12.

† 'Upholding all things by the word of his power.' Heb. i. 3.

‡ 'He appointed the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness, and it is night. Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.' Ps. civ. 19, 20, 23.

Who could count the stars?—No one but God.* He knows their names and their number too.† When we look at the moon and stars, let us think 'how great God is!' Yet He cares for the little birds, and loves little children.‡

CHILD.

I saw the glorious sun arise
  From yonder mountain gray;
And as he travell'd through the skies,
  The darkness went away;
And all around me was so bright,
I wish'd it would be always light.

But when his shining course was done
  The gentle moon drew nigh,
And stars came twinkling, one by one,
  Upon the shady sky.
Who made the sun to shine so far,
The moon and every twinkling star?

MAMMA.

'Twas God, my child, who made them all
  By His almighty skill;
He keeps them, that they do not fall,
  And guides them as He will:
That glorious God who lives afar,
In heaven, beyond the highest star.

*Jane Taylor's Hymns for Infant Minds.*

* 'As the host of heaven cannot be numbered.' Jer. xxxiii. 22.

† 'Behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names, by the greatness of his might.' Isa. xl. 26.

‡ 'When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou art mindful of him?' Ps. viii. 3, 4.

## *LESSON VIII.*

### THE WORLD.—PART III.

GEN. i. 20–25.

GOD had made a great many things; but none of these things were alive. At last He made some living things. He spoke, and the water was filled with fishes, more than could be counted.

Some were very small, and some were very large.* Have you heard of the great whale? It is a fish as long as a church.† Fishes are cold, and they have no feet, and they cannot sing, nor speak.

God made some creatures, more beautiful than fish, to fly about in the air. The birds:—they perched upon the trees, and sang among the branches.‡

Birds have wings, and are covered with feathers of all colours. The robin has a red breast; the goldfinch has some yellow feathers; and the jay some blue ones: but

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* 'This great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping *innumerable*, both small and great beasts.' Ps. civ. 24.

‡ Some have been taken of 100 feet long, and almost as much in circumference: though now, in consequence of the increased activity of the fishery, whales seldom live long enough to attain their full growth.—*Encyclopædia Britannica*, Art. 'Cetology.'

‡ 'The fowls of the heaven, which sing among the branches.' Ps. civ. 12.

the peacock is the most beautiful of birds.* It has a little tuft upon its head, and a long train that sweeps behind; sometimes it spreads out its feathers, and they look like a large fan. The thrush, the blackbird, and the linnet, can sing sweetly: but there is one bird that can sing more sweetly still—it is the nightingale. At night, when all the other birds have left off singing, the nightingale may be heard in the woods.

Some birds swim upon the water; such as geese, and ducks, and the beautiful swan, with its long neck and its feathers like the snow.

Some birds are very tall. The ostrich is as tall as a man. It cannot fly like other birds, but it can run very fast indeed.

The eagle builds its nest in a very high place.† Its wings are very strong, and it can fly as high as the clouds.‡

The gentlest of the birds is the dove. It cannot sing, but it sits alone and moans softly, as if it was sad.§

I cannot tell you the names of all the birds, but you can think of the names of some other kinds.

There is another sort of living creatures, called insects. God made them come out of the earth, and not out of

* 'Gavest thou the goodly wings unto the peacocks?' Job, xxxix. 13.

† 'Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest *on high?*' Job, xxxix. 27.

‡ 'They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles.' Isa. xl. 31.

§ 'They that escape of them shall escape, and shall be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, every one for his iniquity.' Ezek. vii. 16.

the water, like fishes. Insects are small, and creep upon the earth; such as ants. Some insects can fly also; such as bees and butterflies. The bee sucks the juice of flowers, and makes wax and honey. How gay are the wings of the butterfly! they are covered with little feathers, too small to be seen.

All the insects were good and pretty when God made them.

At last God made the beasts. They came out of the earth when God spoke. Beasts walk upon the earth; most of them have four legs. You know the names of a great many sorts of beasts. Sheep and cows, dogs and cats, are beasts. But there are many other sorts besides: the squirrel that jumps from bough to bough, the rabbit that lives in a hole underground, and the goat that climbs the high hills; the stag with his beautiful horns, the lion with his yellow hair, the tiger whose skin is marked with stripes. The elephant is the largest of the beasts, the lion is the strongest, the dog is the most sensible, the stag is the most beautiful, but the lamb is the gentlest. The dove is the gentlest of the birds, and the lamb is the gentlest of the beasts.

Now God had filled the world with living creatures, and they were all good: even lions and tigers were good and harmless. I have told you of four sorts of living creatures:

1. Fishes.
2. Birds.
3. Insects.
4. Beasts.

All these creatures have bodies, but they have not souls like you. They can move and breathe. God feeds them every day, and keeps them alive.* The Lord is good to them all.

When God first clothed the earth with green
  And sprinkled it with flow'rs,
There was no living creature seen
  Within its pleasant bow'rs.

Soon by His word God fill'd the earth,
  And waters underneath,
With things above the plants in worth,
  That feel and move and breathe.

The fishes, cover'd o'er with scales,
  In ocean swiftly glide;
With their vast tails the wondrous whales
  Scatter the waters wide.

The birds among the branches sing,
  And chief the nightingale:
The peacock shines with painted wing,
  The dove does softly wail.

Insects with humming fill the air,
  And sparkle in the sun:
The butterfly by colours fair
  Surpasses every one.

The beasts tread firmly on the ground;
  The goat has nimble feet;
The stag's with branching antlers crown'd;
  The lamb's most soft and sweet.

* 'These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.' Ps. civ. 27.

Pleasure the whole creation fills;
  They leap, they swim, they fly;
They skim the plains, they climb the hills,
  Or in the valleys lie.

With herb for meat the Lord provides
  His numerous family;
The lion with the lamb abides,
  The dove and hawk agree.

In all the woods no sound of strife,
  Or piteous moans arise;
None takes away his fellow's life,
  And none expiring lies.

Those happy days, alas! are past,
  And death has entered here;
Why did they not for ever last,
  And *when* did death appear?

## *LESSON IX.*

### ADAM AND EVE.

GEN. i. 26, to the end of chap. ii.

Now I shall tell you of the last thing God made.

God took some of the dust of the ground, and made the body of a man; then He breathed on it, and gave it a soul; so the man could understand about God. Adam was quite good like God.* Adam loved God very much.

God put him in a very pretty garden, full of trees covered with fruit. This garden was called the garden of Eden. God showed Adam all the beasts and birds, and let Adam give them what names he pleased. He said to Adam, 'I give you all the fishes, and insects, and birds, and beasts; you are their master.' So Adam was king over all things on the earth.

God said to Adam, 'You may eat of the fruit that grows on the trees in the garden.' Still God did not let him be idle, but told him to take care of the garden. You see how very kind God was to Adam.

But Adam had no friend to be with him; for the beasts and birds could not talk to Adam. Then God said He would make a woman, to be a friend to Adam. So God made Adam fall fast asleep. God took a piece of bone and flesh out of his side, and made it into a woman. When Adam woke, he saw her. He knew that she was

* 'God hath made man upright.' Eccles. vii. 29.

made of his flesh and bone, and he loved her very much. Her name was 'woman,' and afterwards her name was Eve.

You have heard of all the things God made. They were all beautiful; and all the living things were quite happy; there was no pain, and no sighing, and no sin in all the world.

God had been six days in making the world. And when He had finished it, He rested on the seventh day, and made no more things.

The angels saw the world that God had made: they were pleased, and sang a sweet song of praise to God.* Jesus Christ the Son of God was pleased, for He loved Adam and Eve.†

How did I know about the world being made? It is written in the Bible, which is God's own book.

Let us count over all the things that God made:

1. Light.
2. Air.
3. Clouds.
4. Sea.
5. Dry land.
6. Things that grow out of the earth.
7. Sun, moon, and stars.
8. Living creatures.

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* 'Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?' Job, xxxviii. 4, 7.

† 'Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.' Prov. viii. 31.

## *LESSON X.*

### THE FIRST SIN.

GEN. iii.

ADAM and Eve were very happy in the garden of Eden. They talked to each other, and walked together, and they never quarrelled, and they praised God for all His kindness to them.

God used to talk with them sometimes. They were pleased to hear His voice, for they were not afraid of Him.

There was one thing that God had told them not to do.

There was a tree in the middle of the garden. Some beautiful fruit grew upon it; but God said to Adam and Eve, 'You must not eat of the fruit of that tree; for if you eat of it, you shall die.'

Adam and Eve liked to obey God, and they did not wish to eat of this fruit.

You know that the wicked angel, Satan, hates God, and he hated Adam and Eve.* He wished to make them naughty, that they might go to hell and be burned in his fire. So he thought he would ask them to eat of that fruit. He went into the garden, and looked like a serpent.†

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* 'Love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.' 1 John, iv. 7.

† 'That old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.' Rev. xii. 9.

He saw Eve alone near the tree.

He said to her, 'Why do you not eat of this fruit?'

Eve answered, 'No, I will not; we must not eat of that fruit. If we do, God has said we shall die.'

Then the serpent said, 'You shall not die; the fruit will make you wise.'

Eve looked at the fruit, and thought it seemed nice and pretty, and she picked some and ate it; and she gave some to Adam, and he ate it.

It was very wicked of them to eat this fruit. Now they were grown naughty, and did not love God.*

Soon they heard God speaking in the garden; then they were frightened, and they went and hid themselves among the trees.

But God saw them; for He can see everywhere.

So God said, 'Adam, where art thou?' Then Adam and Eve came from under the trees.

God said to Adam, 'Have you eaten the fruit that I told you not to eat?'

And Adam said, 'It was this woman who asked me to eat some.'

And God said to Eve, 'What is this that thou hast done?'

And Eve said, 'The serpent asked me to eat.'

God was very angry with the serpent, and said he should be punished for ever and ever.†

God said to Adam and Eve, 'You shall die. I made your bodies of dust, and they will turn to dust again.'

* 'By one man's disobedience many were made sinners.' Rom. v. 19.

† 'It shall bruise thy head.' Gen. iii. 15.

God would not let them stay in the sweet garden. He made them go out. He would not let them come back. He told one of His bright angels to stand before the gate with a sword of fire, and to keep Adam and Eve out of the garden.

Near Eden's land, in days gone by,
  A lovely garden stood:
The trees were pleasant to the eye;
  The fruit was good for food.

Two holy creatures spent their days
  Within that garden fair:
In love they dwelt; they sang God's praise,
  And humbly knelt in prayer.

In that sweet land one tree was placed,
  Their faithful love to try,
'That fruit,' God said, 'you shall not taste:
  Who eats shall surely die.'

O why did Eve to Satan's lies
  So readily attend?
Upon the fruit why fix her eyes,
  Then pluck it with her hand?

No more shall Eve or Adam stay
  Within that garden fair;
An angel stands to guard the way,
  That none may enter there.

## *LESSON XI.*

### THE SON OF GOD.

GEN. iii. 14–24.

ARE you not very sorry to hear that Adam and Eve were turned out of the garden?

It was not so pleasant outside of the garden. A great many weeds and thistles grew outside; but in the garden there were only pretty flowers and sweet fruits.

Adam was forced to dig the ground till he was hot and tired, for he could not always find fruit upon the trees.

Now Adam felt pain in his body sometimes; and his hair became gray, and at last he was quite old.

Eve was very often sick and weak, and tears ran down her cheeks.

Poor Adam and Eve! if you had obeyed God you would have been happy for ever.

Adam and Eve knew that they must die at last. God gave them some little children; and Adam and Eve knew that their children must die too. God had told them that their bodies were made of dust, and that they must turn to dust again.

But there was something more sad still. They were grown wicked. They did not love praising God, as they once had done, but they liked doing many naughty things.*

* 'The carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.' Rom. viii. 7.

They were grown like Satan; so Satan hoped that when their bodies were put into the ground, their spirits would be with him; for Satan knew that the wicked could not live with God in heaven.*

And they would have gone to hell, and all their children too, had not God taken pity upon them. God, who is very kind, had found out a way to save them.

God had said to His Son, a long, long while before, 'Adam and Eve and all their children must go to hell for their wickedness, unless you die instead of them.† My beloved Son, I will send you; you shall have a body; you shall go and live in the world, and you shall obey me, and you shall die for Adam and his children.' ‡

The Son said to His Father, 'I will come: I will do all that you desire me to do. It is my delight to obey you.' §

So the Son promised that He would die for Adam and Eve, and for their children.

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* 'And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you.' Luke, xxii. 3.

The constant efforts of Satan to tempt man to commit sin show that he is aware of the destructive nature of sin; as it is undeniable that he desires to destroy man.

† 'Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.' 1 John, iv. 10. 'Who verily was fore-ordained before the foundation of the world.' 1 Pet. i. 20.

‡ 'I have kept my Father's *commandments*, and abide in his love.' John, xv. 10.

§ 'Then said I, Lo, I come: I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.' Ps. xl. 8.

How kind it was of the Father to spare His dear Son, whom He loved so very much!* How kind it was of the Son to leave His throne of light, His bright angels, and His dear Father, and to take a body and to die!†

You know that we are some of Adam's children's children. It was for us that Jesus came to die. We are wicked, and we should go to hell, if Jesus had not promised to die for us.‡ We ought to love the Father and the Son, because they had pity on us.

Let us praise God with the angels,§ and say,—

'We thank Thee, O Father, for Thy tender love, in giving up Thine only Son.

'We thank Thee, O Son, for Thy tender love, in coming down to bleed and die.'

The Father waited a long while before He sent His Son down to be a man.

All the time the Son waited in heaven He thought of what He promised to do;‖ but He would not

* 'Thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.' John, xvii. 24.

† 'The glory which I had with thee before the world was.' John, xvii. 5.

‡ 'As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.' 1 Cor. xv. 22.

§ 'I heard the voice of many angels, saying, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain. And every creature heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.' Rev. v. 12–14.

‖ 'Visits of the Son of God to man, in anticipation of His sacrifice, are recorded often in the Old Testament. His visit to Abraham, in

go and be a man till His Father pleased to send Him.*

Adam has sinn'd: and on the ground
  Shall thorns and thistles grow;
His body lie in dust; his soul—
  Ah! whither shall it go?

Shall one who dared to disobey,
  With God for ever dwell?
When angels sinn'd God did not spare,
  But cast them down to hell.

Yet long before the world was made
  Our God contrived a plan,
By which his sinful soul to save,
  And pardon guilty man.

The Father said His Son should die,
  The Son replied, 'I will:
A feeble body I will take;
  This body men shall kill.'

Father, how great Thy love to man,
  To send Thy Son from high!
How great Thy love, O glorious Son,
  To come, and bleed, and die!

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Gen. xviii.; to Jacob, Gen. xxxii.; to Moses in the bush, Exod. iii.; to Joshua, Jos. v.; to Isaiah, Isa. vi., compared with John, xii. 41.

The Son of God is evidently referred to in the following passage: 'He bare them and carried them all the days of old.' Isa. lxiii. 9.

* 'When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son.' Gal. iv. 4.

## *LESSON XII.*

### THE VIRGIN MARY.

LUKE, i. 26–55.

GOD told Adam and Eve that He would send His Son down some day to die for them. But Adam and Eve did not love God; for they were grown wicked.

Could God make them good?

Yes; He could: for there is the Holy Spirit in heaven, and the Holy Spirit could come into them and make them good.

You know, my little children, we are wicked, and God can make us good with His Holy Spirit. If God puts His Holy Spirit in us, we shall not go to hell, and live with Satan.*

I hope you will ask God to give you His Holy Spirit. Say to God, 'O give me Thy Holy Spirit, to make me good!'

Adam had a great many children and grandchildren, and they had more children; at last the world was full of people—more people than you could count.

After Adam and Eve had been dead a long while, and when the world was full of people, God said to His Son, 'Now, my beloved Son, go down into the world.'

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* 'God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through *sanctification* of the Spirit, and belief of the truth.' 2 Thess. ii. 13.

But God chose that His Son should be a little baby at first—because everybody is a little baby at first.

God sent His Son to be the baby of a poor woman. This woman's name was Mary. Mary had no little children. She was a good woman and loved God. God's Holy Spirit was in her, and made her meek and gentle.

One day an angel came to her. When Mary saw the bright angel, she was frightened: but the angel said, 'Fear not, Mary; God loves you. He will send you a baby, that shall be the Son of God. You shall call His name Jesus. He will come to save people from Satan.'

Mary was much surprised at what the angel said. She thought she was not good enough to have such a baby as the Lord Jesus.

When the angel was gone back to heaven, Mary sang a sweet song of praise to God for His goodness. Mary said, 'My soul praises God, and my spirit is glad because of my Saviour.'

Mary called her baby her Saviour, for she knew that He would save her from hell.

I wonder not that Mary fear'd
When Gabriel to her appear'd;
How could she know he came to bring
So sweet a message from his King?

Full long the Son in heaven had stay'd,
Since first the promise had been made
To shed His blood for Adam's sin,
And happiness for man to win.

But yet the Son had ne'er forgot,
And what He said He changèd not;
The time was come He should be born,
And in this world should live forlorn.

Mary shall be the mother dear,
Who in her arms the child shall bear;
The angel came this news to bring,
And Mary listen'd wondering.

And did the Lord a poor maid choose—
And all the great and rich refuse?
High honours God delights to place
On those who humbly seek His face.

## *LESSON XIII.*

### THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

LUKE, ii. 1–7.

MARY had a husband called Joseph. He was a good man, and very kind to Mary.

Now before Mary's baby was born, a great king said that everybody must have their names written down.* So Mary and Joseph left their house, and went a great way off. At last they came to a town called Bethlehem.

It was night. Where could they sleep?

They went to an inn, and said, 'Do let us in. We have come from a great way off.'

But the master of the inn said, 'I have no room in my inn for you.'

What could poor Mary do? Must she sleep in the street?

Mary said she would sleep in the stable, if the master would let her.

So Mary and Joseph went into the stable. There were cows and asses in the stable.

While Mary was in the stable, God sent her the little baby He had promised her. She knew He was the Son of God, though He looked like other little babies.

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* The word translated 'taxed,' signifies 'enrolled.' A general census of the Roman empire was made at this time.

She wrapped Him in some long clothes, called swaddling clothes; but she had no cradle for Him to sleep in, and she could not lay Him on the ground, lest the beasts should tread upon Him; so she put Him in the manger, and she sat by Him to take care of Him.

How dearly Mary loved this sweet babe!

This baby had not a naughty heart, as other babies have.* Jesus had no sin, but was quite meek and lowly. Yet other babies have cradles and soft pillows, while Jesus lay in a manger.

I will tell you a verse to say to your little baby-brother when you rock his cradle:—

Soft and easy is thy cradle;—
Coarse and hard thy Saviour lay
When His birthplace was a stable,
And His softest bed was hay.

*Dr. Watts's Cradle Hymn.*

* 'That *holy* thing which shall be born of thee.' Luke, i. 35. 'Was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.' Heb. iv. 15.

THE BABE IN THE MANGER.

## *LESSON XIV.*

### THE SHEPHERDS.

LUKE, ii. 8–20.

THERE were some fields near Bethlehem. On the night when Jesus was born, some shepherds were sitting by their sheep in those fields. Why did they sit up at night? To keep their sheep from the wolves and lions which walk about at night. There are no lions where we live, but near Bethlehem there were some.

These shepherds saw a great light. A beautiful angel came from heaven. The poor shepherds were afraid; but the angel said, 'Fear not, I have sweet news to tell you. God has sent His own Son from heaven to save you from hell. He is a baby now, lying in a manger. Go to Bethlehem, and you will find Him.'

When the angel had done speaking,—hundreds and hundreds of bright angels filled the sky, and began singing and praising God for having sent His Son to save men.

At last the angels went back to heaven, and the shepherds were left alone.

Did they stay with their sheep?

No; they said, 'Let us go and see the Son of God.'

They ran to Bethlehem, and went to the stable of the inn. There was a babe lying in the manger; Mary

and Joseph were sitting by. The shepherds said, 'This is the Son of God. Angels have spoken to us to-night, and told us where to find Him.'

All the people in Bethlehem were much surprised when the shepherds told them about the angels and the Son of God.

Blessed Babe! what glorious features!
  Spotless, fair, divinely bright:
Must He dwell with brutal creatures?
  How could angels bear the sight?

Was there nothing but a manger
  Wretched sinners could afford,
To receive the heavenly stranger?
  Did they thus affront the Lord?

See the kinder shepherds round Him
  Telling wonders from the sky;
Where they sought Him, there they found Him,
  With His virgin mother by.

See the lovely babe a-dressing,
  Lovely infant, how He smiled!
When He wept, the mother's blessing
  Sooth'd and hush'd the holy child.

*Dr. Watts's Cradle Hymn.*

## *LESSON XV.*

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### THE WISE MEN.

MATT. ii.

THERE were some wise and rich men. They lived a great way from Bethlehem. They knew that God had sent His Son to be a babe; but they did not know where to find Him; so God put a beautiful star in the sky, and God made it move towards the place where Jesus was.

So the wise men left their houses, and set out on a long journey; but first they said, 'Let us bring some presents for the Son of God: for He is a king.'

They took some gold, and some sweet-smelling stuff to burn.

They looked at the star as they went.

At last it stopped over a house in Bethlehem.

The wise men were very glad indeed.

They longed to see the Son of God.

They went in, and there they saw Mary and her child Jesus: they fell down, and began to praise Him, and to call Him the Son of God, and the King.

They took out their presents, and gave them to Him. Mary was poor; but now she had some money to buy things for her little baby.

Lo! travellers enter Bethlehem's gate;
  Arrived from some far-distant land;
They seem to be of high estate,
  And hold rich presents in their hand.

They swiftly pass from street to street,
  Nor need they fear to go astray,
Nor need they ask the men they meet
  To guide them in their unknown way.

For see where shines a beauteous star;
  On it they fix their joyful eyes:
That heavenly guide has led them far,
  And now it lightens Bethlehem's skies.

But lo! it stops, its course is done;
  On Mary's roof it sheds a light:
Enter! there dwells God's blessed Son—
  Enter! enjoy the glorious sight.

But where is He, the Lord of all,
  Who made the heavens and earth and seas?
Behold Him there, an infant small,
  Lying upon His mother's knees.

Their Lord full well the strangers know,
  And humbly worship at His feet,
Joyful their golden treasures show,
  And burn their precious spices sweet.

O happy they who knelt that day
  Before the lovely infant's face,
And who believed, though clad in clay,
  That He was Lord of every place!

And shall not I be happy too,
  If, though His face I never saw,
I feel for Him affection true,
  And still obey His holy law?

Nor gold nor spices need I give,
  To show my Lord how much I love;
But I may serve Him while I live,
  And thus my warm affection prove.

## *LESSON XVI.*

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### KING HEROD.

MATT. ii. LUKE, ii. 51, 52.

THERE was a very wicked king called Herod. He lived a little way from Bethlehem. He heard that a babe was born in Bethlehem, and that some people said that the babe was a king.

Now Herod did not like that there should be any other king besides himself. Herod did not like that even the Son of God should be king.

So Herod said, 'I will kill this babe that is called a king.'

Herod knew that this babe was in Bethlehem; but there were many babes in Bethlehem, and Herod did not know which was the babe that was called a king.

Some people knew which it was; but they loved Jesus, and they would not tell Herod. A very wicked thought came into Herod's mind. He thought, 'I will kill all the babes in Bethlehem.' Do you think God would let Herod kill His Son? No. God knew what Herod meant to do. God sent one of His bright angels to speak to Joseph when he was asleep.

The angel said, 'A wicked king wants to kill the baby. Get up, Joseph; take Mary and the baby a great way off.'

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT.

So Joseph got up quickly; he took his ass, he put Mary on it, and she held the baby. It was dark when they set off. Nobody saw them go.

The next morning some men came with swords. Herod had sent them. They were come to kill all the babies. They opened every door, and said, 'Is there a baby here?' Then they snatched it from its mother, and killed it, and the poor mother cried bitterly. Had you walked down the streets, you would have heard nothing but women weeping and crying out, 'My pretty babe is dead; I shall never see it more!'

Was Jesus killed?

No: He was gone far away. His Father, God, had sent Him away. Herod could not kill Him, for God would not let Him die so soon.

At last King Herod died. Then God sent an angel to speak to Joseph when he was asleep. The angel said, 'Joseph, go back to your own country; Herod is dead.'

So Joseph took the ass, and Mary, and the sweet child, Jesus, and they all came back to their own country.

Joseph was a carpenter. Jesus lived with Joseph and Mary, and minded all they said. He was a wise child, and loved to think of God. God His Father loved Him, and everybody loved Him, because He was so meek and kind. The older He grew the more they loved Him.

**From babies dear the blood is streaming;**
**Around behold the mothers screaming;**
**For cruel Herod sent an order**
**To kill the children of that border.**

He seeks to kill the heavenly stranger,
But God has saved His Son from danger:
An angel—Joseph did awaken;
To distant lands the Babe is taken.

How safe are those within God's keeping!
How safe awake, how safe when sleeping!
For night and day His eye can watch them;
His hand—from every evil snatch them.

## *LESSON XVII.*

### THE TEMPTATION.

MATT. iv. 1–11.

AT last Jesus grew to be a man. He knew that He must go from place to place, and teach people about God.

But first He went into a place by Himself—called a wilderness. He had no house to sleep in there, no friend to speak to, no food to eat. In the night it was cold, in the day very hot.

There were no men, but there were lions, wolves, and bears.* At night they roared and howled; but Jesus trusted in His Father.

He ate nothing for forty days and forty nights: God kept Him alive. When Jesus was alone, then He spoke in His heart to His dear Father.†

At last some one came and spoke to Him.

Who was it?

Not a man, not a bright angel, not God: it was Satan. I do not know how he looked. He was come to tempt Jesus to do wickedly, and not to mind God His Father.

Satan knew that Jesus was hungry. He said to Him,

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* 'And he was with the wild beasts.' Mark, i. 13.

† 'Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.' John, xvi. 32.

'Turn these stones into bread!' but Jesus would not, for God had promised to feed Him Himself.

After that, Satan took Jesus to the top of a great building, that was much higher than a church. It is dreadful to be on the top of a very high place; it makes one tremble to look down from the top.

Satan said to Jesus, 'Throw yourself down from this place; your Father will send His angels to keep you from being hurt, for you know that He has promised to take care of you.'

Would Jesus have done right, had He thrown Himself down? No: Jesus knew that His Father would be displeased if He threw Himself down; and Jesus always did the things that pleased His Father.

Then Satan took Him to the top of a very high hill. He showed Him the most beautiful things in the world, gardens and houses, ships and carriages, and fine clothes and feasts. He said, 'Look at these fine things. I will give them all to you. You shall have all the world for your own; only kneel down and call me God.'

But Jesus said, 'I will pray to my Father, and not to you.'

Jesus loved His Father better than all the things in the world.

Adam and Eve minded Satan, and disobeyed God; but Jesus did all His Father had told Him. Adam was disobedient, Jesus was obedient.

Then Satan went away; and angels came from heaven and fed Jesus.

Satan goes about, trying to make children naughty.

A lion could only eat your body, but Satan wants to have your soul and body in hell. Satan hates you. He is your enemy. But God is stronger than Satan.* Say to God, 'Keep me from minding Satan,' and God will keep you.

Upon that mountain's height
  Two mighty princes stand;
Jesus the Prince of Light,
  Satan at His right hand.
Below them lies the prospect fair
Of all earth holds of rich or rare.

Tables are seen around,
  Spread with delicious meats;
Gardens where fruits abound,
  And thousand tempting sweets:
Silver and gold and precious stones,
Chariots and palaces and thrones.

Satan did once prevail
  On Eve to disobey:
And now why should he fail
  To tempt the Lord astray?
For Eve abundant food possess'd,
While Christ with hunger is distress'd.

In vain the tempter tries
  The Saviour to deceive,
For Jesus left the skies
  Our misery to relieve:
His Father dear He sought to please,
Nor wish'd for earthly joy and ease.

* 'Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.' 1 John, iv. 4.

He had seen brighter things,
  And sweeter joys had known,
Where angels touch the strings
  Around His Father's throne.
And shall He from that throne descend
Before the evil one to bend?

No! He will hunger bear,
  And suffer sharpest pain,
Till God shall hear His prayer,
  And His weak life sustain.
And lo! ashamed the tempter flies,
And angels feed Him from the skies.

## CHILD.

Full oft does Satan try
  To draw my steps aside;
Now bids me tell a lie,
  My faults from all to hide,
And tempts me soon to sin again,
That I new pleasure may obtain.

Whenever I consent
  To walk in Satan's ways,
It is as though I bent
  My knee before his face.
And what reward will Satan give?—
In his own hell with him to live.

How shall my feeble heart
  Be kept from Satan's power?
O Lord, Thy strength impart
  In ev'ry tempted hour,
That I may sinful joys refuse,
And Thy sweet service ever choose.

## *LESSON XVIII.*

### THE TWELVE DISCIPLES.

MARK, i. 16–20.

WHEN Jesus was a man, He began to teach people about His Father. Jesus used to preach.

Where did He preach?

Sometimes He preached to people in a place like a church; sometimes He preached in the fields; sometimes He sat on the top of a hill and preached; and sometimes He sat in a ship, and the people stood by the edge of the water to hear Him.

Jesus did not always live in the same place: He used to walk about from one place to another.

Did Jesus walk about alone?—No; He had twelve friends always with Him. He called them His twelve disciples.

How many are twelve?—Let us count the little children in this room. Here are twelve. Jesus had just so many disciples.

One was called Peter, and another John, and another James, and another Thomas. But I will not tell you the names of all, lest you should forget them.

Peter was a fisherman. He had a little ship, and he used to catch fish in the day and in the night. James

and John had another little ship, and they used to catch fish.

One day Jesus passed by their ships, and Jesus saw Peter and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the sea to catch fish, and Jesus said to them, 'Come with me.' And Peter and Andrew left their nets, and their ships, and went with Jesus.

And Jesus went a little farther, and He saw James and John sitting in their ship, mending the holes in their nets, and Jesus said to them, 'Come with me;' and they left their nets, and went with Jesus.

Jesus called what people He pleased to come with Him.

Shall I tell you why Jesus chose to have twelve friends always with Him? What do you think was the reason?

Jesus wished to teach them about God His Father,* that they might teach other people about Him.† They liked being with Him, and listening to His words.‡ Would you have liked to be always with Jesus?

When Jesus was alone with His disciples, He used to tell them secrets about God§ and heaven. They loved

* Christ said in prayer to His Father, 'I have manifested *thy name* unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world.' John, xvii. 6.

† 'And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach.' Mark, iii. 14.

‡ 'Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.' John, vi. 67, 68.

§ 'When they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.' Mark, iv. 34.

Him very much indeed;* they called Him Master, and Lord.† Jesus loved them still more than they loved Him,‡ and He called them His friends.§

Jesus used to give them part of His things. But Jesus had no house to live in,‖ and He had very little money.¶ Sometimes Jesus and His friends were very much tired with walking far,** and sometimes they were very hungry and thirsty.†† But kind people often asked them to come into their houses, and gave them food.‡‡ Other people laughed at Jesus, and called Him names.§§

Were the disciples good?—They were bad, like us; but Jesus put His Spirit into them, and made them

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* 'The Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me.' John, xvi. 27.

† 'Ye call me Master, and Lord.' John, xiii. 13.

‡ 'As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you.' John, xv. 9.

§ 'I have called you friends.' John, xv. 15.

‖ 'The Son of man hath not where to lay his head.' Luke, ix. 58.

¶ Jesus having recourse to a miracle to procure money to pay tribute, testifies to His poverty; and His sharing it with Peter ('Give unto them for me and thee') shows that He shared His supplies with His disciples. Matt. xvii. 24–27.

** 'Jesus, therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well.' John, iv. 6.

†† 'His disciples were an hungered, and began to pluck the ears of corn.' Matt. xii. 2.

‡‡ 'A certain woman named Martha received him into her house.' Luke, x. 38. 'There they made him a supper.' John, xii. 2.

§§ 'Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?' John, viii. 48.

better.* The disciples were not quite good, like Jesus; they often quarrelled with each other,† and sometimes they were unkind to poor people.‡

How happy they who shared the bread
  Of Jesus here below!
From place to place He travelled,
  And they with Him did go.

What though they never had a place
  Where safely to abide,
They saw their loving Master's face,
  And followed by His side.

They heard Him preach from hills and ships
  Of things to men unknown;
But sweeter words dropped from His lips
  When they were all alone;

For then He would the things explain
  They could not understand,
That heav'nly wisdom they might gain,
  And teach it through the land.

CHILD.

'Tis true I cannot here below
  With Thee, my Saviour, dwell;
To heaven one day I hope to go,
  And there to know Thee well.

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* 'Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.' John, xv. 3.

† 'And there was also a strife among them which of them should be accounted the greatest.' Luke, xxii. 24.

‡ Witness their conduct to the woman of Canaan. Matt. xv. 23.

## *LESSON XIX.*

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### THE FIRST MIRACLE.

JOHN, ii. 1–11.

I TOLD you that some people used to ask Jesus to come into their houses. I shall now tell you of a man who did ask Jesus. This man gave a feast, and Jesus came to the feast. Mary, Jesus' mother, came; and the disciples came. There were a great many more people besides at the feast.

There was some wine for the people to drink: but there was so little, that very soon it was all gone.

Jesus knew that the wine was gone. Could not Jesus give the people more wine?—Yes; for He made the world and all things in it.

There were some large stone jars in the room. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them quite full.

Then Jesus said, 'Take some, and give it to the master to drink.' The servants did so; but Jesus had turned the water into wine.

When the master had tasted it, he said, 'What nice wine this is! where did it come from?'

The servants told him how Jesus had told them to fill

the jars with water. Then all the people at the feast knew that Jesus had turned the water into wine.

This was the first wonder that Jesus did; it was called a miracle.

Why did Jesus do miracles?

To show people that He was the Son of God.

The disciples now felt quite sure that Jesus was the Son of God.

Once Jesus to a marriage went;
  The numerous guests surround the board,
When lo! they find the wine is spent;—
  This—Mary hears, and tells the Lord.

Before the guests' astonished eyes
  Christ makes His heavenly glory shine;
The thing desired He soon supplies,
  And changes water into wine.

How ready does our Lord appear
  Our fond desires to satisfy!
And all that we can wish for here
  He is well *able* to supply.

JESUS RESTORING SIGHT TO THE BLIND.

## *LESSON XX.*

### SEVERAL MIRACLES.

LUKE, vi. 11–16.

AFTER Jesus had turned the water into wine, He did a great many wonders. He made blind people see, and deaf people hear, and dumb people speak, and lame people walk.

When Jesus came to a place, all the sick people crowded round Him.

Jesus did not send them away because they disturbed Him, but He cured them all—yes—every one.*

This was the way in which He cured one blind man. He said, 'See!' and the man could see that moment.†

This was the way in which He cured a man who was deaf and dumb. Jesus put His fingers into his ears, and touched his tongue, and looked up to His Father in heaven, and said, 'Be opened!' and immediately the string of his tongue was loosed, and he could speak plainly.‡

Once Jesus saw a poor sick man lying on a bed, and Jesus said to him, 'Should you like to be made well?'

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* 'He laid his hands on *every one* of them, and healed them.' Luke, iv. 40.

† Luke, xviii. 42.

‡ Mark, vii. 32–35.

The poor man said he wished very much to be made well. Then Jesus said, 'Get up, carry your bed, and walk.' The man tried to get up, and he found that he could; for Jesus gave him strength.*

One day Jesus was in a place like a church; He was preaching; when He saw a poor woman whose back was bent, so that she could not lift up her head. Jesus said, 'Woman, I have made you well;' and then Jesus touched her with His hands, and her back grew straight, and she began to praise God.†

Sometimes Jesus made dead people alive again. That was more wonderful than making sick people well.

Once Jesus was walking on the road. A great many people were walking after Him, for people liked to see Him do wonders, and to hear Him talk. They met some men carrying a dead man to put him in the ground.

A poor old woman came after, crying very much. She was the mother of the dead man. He was her only son. Jesus was very sorry to see her cry. He came up to her and said, 'Do not cry,' and then He touched the coffin. There was no top to it; the dead man was lying in it.

Jesus said, 'Get up, young man.' He sat up and began to speak. Then Jesus said to his mother, 'Here is your son.'

All the people were surprised, and said, 'This must be the Son of God. He can make dead people live again.'

* John, v. 5–9. † Luke, xiii. 11–13.

## *LESSON XXI.*

### THE SINNER AND SIMON.

LUKE, vii. 36 to end.

WHY did Jesus come into the world?—To save us from hell.

But why did God say that people must go to hell?—Because everybody was naughty.

Jesus can forgive people their naughtiness, and make them good. But Jesus will not forgive people who are not sorry. I will tell you of a proud man who was not sorry, and of a poor woman who was sorry.

A rich proud man asked Jesus to come and dine with him. Why did he ask Jesus? he did not love Him;—he only asked Him, that he might hear Him talk: but Jesus said He would come.

The proud man treated Jesus very unkindly. He gave Him no water to wash His feet, put no sweet ointment upon them, gave Him no kiss.

A poor woman, who had been very naughty, saw Jesus go into the rich man's house. She came up behind Jesus, and began to cry for all her naughtiness. She knew Jesus could forgive her, and she loved Jesus.

She had brought a box of ointment with her: she stooped down, and her tears fell upon Jesus' feet, and with her tears she washed them: she wiped them with her long hair, and then poured the sweet ointment upon them, and kissed them.

The rich man looked at the woman very angrily; he knew she had been very naughty, and he was angry at seeing Jesus so kind to her.

But Jesus said to the proud man, 'This woman has been very naughty: but I have forgiven her, and she loves me very much. She loves me a great deal more than you do. You gave me no water for my feet; but she has washed my feet with her tears. You gave me no kiss; but she has kissed my feet ever since I came in. You gave me no ointment; but she has poured very sweet ointment upon my feet.'

Then Jesus spoke kindly to the woman, and said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.'

So Jesus comforted this poor woman, but the proud man and his friends grew still more angry.

Jesus will forgive your sins if you are sorry, and if you ask Him;* but if you think yourself good, He will not forgive you; for Jesus cannot bear proud people.† Though you are but a little child, you have done a great many wrong things; and you do not deserve to go to heaven. Oh, I hope Jesus will forgive you! I hope the Holy Spirit will come into your heart, and make you feel

* 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.' 1 John, i. 9.

† See the parable of the Pharisee and publican, Luke, xviii.

very sorry for your sins. Then Jesus will forgive you, and you will love Him, as this poor woman did.

Oh! tell me who is standing there
With weeping eyes and flowing hair,
  And box of ointment sweet.
Now on the ground she's bending low;
Her tears yet fast and faster flow—
  They fall on Jesus' feet.

To her dear Lord such love she bears,
His feet she washes with her tears,
  And wipes them with her hair;
And then, with pious tenderness,
Fond kisses ceases not to press,
  And pours the ointment rare.

Ah! she, whose love is now so strong,
Has wander'd far, has wander'd long,
  And from her God has gone;
But now with willing feet returns,
And now with deepest sorrow mourns
  The deeds that she has done.

And will the Lord in pity look,
And blot her crimes out from His book,
  And words of comfort say?
Ah! yes; e'en now He pardon gives,
E'en now the weeping sinner lives,
  And wipes her tears away.

CHILD.

And would the Lord thus deal with me,
If I should humbly bow my knee,
  And all my sins confess?

For though I'm young, I've wander'd far;
My sins, I know, most hateful are
  Unto God's holiness.

But if the Lord *one* mourner heard,
And sweetly spake the pard'ning word,
  Why should He not hear me?
He *once* was kind; (I well know this;)
And what He was, He always is,
  And evermore will be.

## *LESSON XXII.*

### THE STORM AT SEA.

LUKE, viii. 22–25.

JESUS often went into a ship with His disciples. Peter had a ship of his own, and John had another ship, and they liked to lend their ships to Jesus.

Once they were all in a ship, when the wind blew very hard and the water moved up and down, and came over the ship. The disciples were afraid that they should be drowned.

Jesus had fallen asleep, and was lying on a pillow. The noise of the wind and of the water had not awakened Him.

His disciples ran to Him and cried, 'O Master! do you not care for us? will you let us die?'

Then Jesus got up and said to the wind, 'Wind, be still!' and He said to the water, 'Be still!'

The wind left off blowing, and the water was smooth and quiet.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'Why were you afraid? Why did you not believe that I would take care of you?'

Jesus knew that they were tossed about, and He would have kept them safe, though He was asleep.

The disciples said one to another, 'Jesus is the Son of God; even the wind and the water obey Him.'

The disciples, with Jesus their Lord,
  At sea in a vessel were toss'd;
The winds loudly blew, the waves roar'd;
  They fear'd that they all should be lost.

The waters rush'd into the ship:
  For Jesus all eagerly look:
He lies on a pillow asleep—
  Had He His disciples forsook?

Not so; while He slept He still thought
  Of them, and their bitter distress:
His merciful eye slumbers not,
  But watches His children to bless.

He rises His work to perform:
  The wind and the waters obey:
Soon hush'd is the terrible storm,
  The hurricane passes away.

How ready is Jesus to save!
  How strong is His arm to protect!
His mercy we ever will crave;
  And deliv'rance will ever expect.

## *LESSON XXIII.*

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### JAIRUS' DAUGHTER.

LUKE, viii. 41 to end.

A RICH man came to Jesus, and fell down at His feet and said, 'I have one little girl, and she is very sick; pray come and make her well.'

Jesus went with the rich man.

When they were near the house, some servants came out and said, 'The little girl is just dead; no one can make her well now.'

But Jesus said, 'Do not be afraid; I can make her well.'

Jesus said to the father and mother of the little girl, 'Come with me into the house. Peter, James, and John, you may come in, but no one else.'

So they went up into the room where the little girl was lying in bed. A great many people were in the room, playing sad music, and singing sad songs, and crying, because the child was dead. But Jesus said, 'Leave off crying. The girl is only sleeping: she is not dead.' Jesus said she was asleep, because He meant to make her alive so soon again. But the people laughed at Jesus,

and said, 'She is dead;' and they would not believe that He could make her alive again.

Jesus said, 'These people must be put out of the room.' So He sent them out, and shut the door; but He let the father and mother, and Peter, and James, and John, stay in the room. He took the little girl's hand, and said, 'Arise!' At first she sat up, and then she rose up out of bed, and walked about the room. She was twelve years old. Jesus then said, 'Bring her something to eat.'

The father and mother were much surprised at what had happened.

Hark! 'tis a father crying,
  And this is what he saith:
'My little daughter's lying
  Just at the point of death.'

The Saviour soon consented
  To come and heal the maid;
Nor was He e'en prevented
  By hearing she was dead.

He found the people weeping
  Because her breath was gone;
And when He said, 'She's sleeping,'
  They laughèd Him to scorn.

The Lord no sinful mocker
  Would suffer to remain;
Then by the hand He took her,
  And bade her rise again.

JESUS RESTORING TO LIFE THE DAUGHTER OF JARIUS.

Ah! see the maid arising
  According to His word;
Does not the deed surprising
  Show Jesus to be Lord?

See in their fond embraces
  The parents clasp the maid:
Ashamed are now the faces
  That mocked at what He said.

## *LESSON XXIV.*

### THE LOAVES AND FISHES.

MATT. xiv. 13–22.

ONCE Jesus went into the wilderness with His disciples, and a great many people came after Him: then Jesus preached to the people, and told them about His Father, and how He Himself had come down from heaven to save them from Satan. They listened to Him from morning till night.

When it was getting dark, the disciples came to Jesus and said, 'Will you not send the people home, for it is late?'

But Jesus knew that the people had had nothing to eat all day, and He did not like to send them home tired and hungry. So He said to His disciples, 'Cannot you feed them?'

'No,' said they: 'we have only five loaves and two small fishes, and see how many people there are!'

But Jesus said, 'Make them sit down on the grass, and bring the loaves and fishes to me.' So the disciples made them all sit down.

There were a great many people, as many as would fill ten churches—five thousand men, besides women and little children. How tired the little children must have been! it was time for them to have their supper and go to bed.

We shall hear how Jesus fed all these people.

They sat down on the green grass. Jesus took the loaves and fishes: first He lifted up His eyes to His Father, and thanked Him for the food, and then He took a piece of bread and gave it to Peter, and said, 'Feed all those people sitting there;' and He gave another piece to John, and said, 'Feed those people;' and He gave a piece of bread and fish to each of the disciples, and told each to feed some people.

One little piece of bread would not be enough for all the children in this room; but Jesus made the bread enough for all the people. Every one had enough, and they threw upon the grass a great many little pieces. But Jesus said to His disciples, 'Take some baskets, and pick up the crumbs;' and they filled twelve baskets full of little bits of bread. Then Jesus told the people to go home.

What a wonder Jesus had done! Yet you know that He feeds you, my little children, and all the people in the world.

How does He feed you?

He gives you bread.

Of what is bread made?—Of flour.

Of what is flour made?—Of corn.

Who makes corn?—God makes the corn.

Of what does He make it?—Of nothing. God makes things of nothing. Jesus is God, and makes the corn grow;* so you see that Jesus feeds you. If He did not make corn grow in the fields we should die. But He will

* 'By him all things consist.' Col. i. 17.

not forget us. He even remembers the little birds. They are too silly to plough or to sow corn, or to reap or to put corn into barns, yet God does not let them starve.* The birds cry to God, and He hears them, and lets them find food.† Now God loves us much better than He loves the little birds, because we have souls; so He will certainly hear us when we pray to Him.

If your mother had no bread in her cottage, and if she could get no money to buy some, yet God would hear her, if she loved Him. He would not let her starve.‡

Will you not ask God for bread every day, and say, 'Give me this day my daily bread?'

We ought to thank God for the food we eat: before we eat breakfast, or dinner, or supper, we should say, 'I thank Thee, O Lord, for this nice food.'

Behold where on the green hills spread,
  Close by the water-side,
The hungry multitudes are fed,
  At peaceful eventide.

Upon the grass they sit at ease,
  In rows of ten times ten,
Women with children on their knees,
  Besides five thousand men.

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* 'Behold the fowls of the air; for they sow not, neither do they reap, yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are you not much better than they?' Matt. vi. 26.

† 'Who provideth for the raven his food; when his young ones cry unto God,' &c. Job, xxxviii. 41.

‡ 'The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth.' Ps. xxxiv. 17. 'Which giveth food to the hungry.' Ps. cxlvi. 7.

In list'ning they had spent the day;
  Their homes far distant lie:
They would have fainted by the way
  Without this kind supply.

The Lord, whose words they came to hear,
  Has pity on their need,
He loves the weary heart to cheer,
  The hungry poor to feed.

He gives them of His little store
  By His disciples' hands:
Though little, He can make it more,
  For all things He commands.

'Tis He provides the beasts with food,
  To Him the ravens cry:
He watches over us for good,
  And does our need supply.

He once Himself did hunger bear,
  For forty days alone:
And still the hungry are His care;
  He hears them when they groan.

CHILD.

Oh! like my Lord would I delight
  In doing good to all,
And serving them with all my might
  When they for pity call.

Lord, save me from a selfish heart,
  That nothing good can spare;
To others may I give a part,
  And all my comforts share.

## *LESSON XXV.*

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### THE KINDNESS OF JESUS.

MATT. xv. 21–28. MARK, x. 13–16.

I TOLD you that the disciples were sometimes unkind; but Jesus was always kind.

Once a poor woman came crying after Jesus, saying, 'O Lord, I have a little daughter who is very sick.' Jesus did not answer her at first, and the disciples were unkind, and wished her to be sent away. She cried so loud, they said to Jesus, 'Do send her away.'

The poor woman fell down at Jesus' feet, and said, 'Lord, help me!' And Jesus had pity on the woman, and said, 'I will do what you wish.'

The poor woman was glad to hear this, and she went home, and found that her daughter was quite well.

Another time the disciples were unkind to some little children. Some poor women brought their children to Jesus, but the disciples were standing round, and they would not let the women come near.

'Go away,' they said; 'you must not bring the babies here to trouble us.'

But Jesus heard them speak, and was very angry with the disciples. Jesus would not let the children go away.

He said to the disciples, 'Suffer them to come to me; do not send them away.'

"SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME."

Then He took the children in His arms, and put His hands upon them, and prayed to His Father, and blessed them.

O happy little children, to be taken into Jesus' arms!

Jesus loves meek and gentle children. They are Jesus'* lambs. Jesus is their Shepherd, and He will take them to heaven when they die.

Young children once to Jesus came,
  His blessing to entreat;
And I may humbly do the same
  Before His mercy-seat.

For when their feeble hands were spread,
  And bent each humble knee,
'Forbid them not,' the Saviour said;
  And so He says to me.

If babes so many years ago
  His tender pity drew,
He will not surely let me go
  Without a blessing too.

Then while His favour to implore
  My little hands are spread,
Do Thou Thy sacred blessing pour,
  Dear Jesus, on my head.

*Jane Taylor's Hymns for Infant Minds.*

* 'Ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God.' Ezek. xxxiv. 31. 'He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom.' Isa. xl. 11.

## *LESSON XXVI.*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER.

WHEN Jesus was in the world, He loved to think of His Father in heaven. He liked to be alone, that He might pray to His Father: sometimes the tears ran down His cheeks while He prayed.*

One night Jesus prayed all night alone upon the top of a high hill.†

Sometimes Jesus prayed to His Father while His disciples stood near and listened.

Once when Jesus had been praying with them they said, 'Teach us to pray.' Then Jesus taught them a little prayer.

It was this: 'Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven: give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.'

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* 'Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears.' Heb. v. 7.

† 'He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.' Luke, vi. 12.

I know, little children, that you say this prayer night and morning. Your mothers taught you to say it. But did you know who said it first? It was Jesus, the Lord: so it is called 'The Lord's Prayer.'

It is a very beautiful prayer, for Jesus said it; but it is hard for children to understand it.

What is the meaning of 'Hallowed be thy name?'

Let God's name be praised.

What are 'trespasses?'

Trespasses are sins.

Ask God to forgive your sins, or your trespasses.

Do you ever pray to God when you are alone?

You may pray to Him in any PLACE—in the house or in the garden.

You may pray to Him at any TIME—in the night or in the middle of the day.

You may ask Him for anything you want, just as you ask your father.*

What will you ask Him for? Will you ask Him to give you bread, and clothes, and a house to live in?

Yes, ask Him for these things, but most of all—ask Him for His Holy Spirit.

It is better to have the Holy Spirit than to have all the toys, all the money, all the flowers, all the birds, all the beautiful things in the world.

Why is it better?

Because the Holy Spirit will make you love God, as the angels do, and will make you live for ever and ever.

* 'How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?' Luke, xi. 13.

Will you say this little prayer to God ?—' O my Father, pray give me Thy Holy Spirit, for Christ's sake.'

Our Father, seated in the sky,
  Thy holy name be praisèd still:
Be thou obey'd as King most high,
  Let men, like angels, do Thy will

Do Thou our daily bread supply:
  Forgive our sins as we forgive:
Yet help us still from sin to fly:
  Great, glorious King, for ever live!

## *LESSON XXVII.*

### JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH.

MATT. xvi. 21 to end.

JESUS knew everything that would happen,* and He knew that He must soon die.

He used to tell His secrets to His disciples; so He took them into a place by themselves, and said, 'I soon shall leave you: the wicked people will take me, and bind me with ropes, and beat me, and laugh at me, and nail me on a cross; but I shall soon be alive again.'

The disciples could not bear to hear Jesus talk of dying, for they loved Him very much. They all looked very sad, and Peter said, 'You shall not die;' but Jesus said, 'I must die to save men, and to please my Father.'

The Father had desired Jesus to die, and He would not disobey His Father.†

Most of the people who wished to kill Jesus, lived in a great town called Jerusalem.

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* 'Jesus, therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him.' John, xviii. 4.

† 'I have power to lay down (my life), and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.' John, vii. 7.

Jesus used to go to Jerusalem very often, and He used to preach there.

Why did some people hate Jesus?—Because He told them of their wickedness.*

He used to say to them, 'You do not love God, who is my Father, but you are proud and vain.† You wish to kill me. You tell lies. You are unkind to poor people. You pretend to love God, but while you are saying your prayers, you are thinking how good you are. Your hearts are full of wickedness. You are the children of the devil.'‡

Jesus wished them to turn from their wickedness. It grieved Him to see how they hated His Father, and that they would not turn from their wicked ways.§

The wicked people were angry with Jesus, and said, 'God is not your Father.'‖ But Jesus said, 'He is my

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* 'The world cannot hate you, but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.' John, vii. 7.

† 'I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. How can you believe, which receive honour one of another?' John, v. 42, 44.

‡ 'Which devour widows' houses, and for a show make long prayers.' Luke, xx. 47. 'Their heart is far from me.' Matt. xv. 8. 'Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.' Matt. xxiii. 28. 'But now ye seek to kill me. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer. He is a liar.' John, viii. 40, 44.

§ 'Being grieved for the hardness of their hearts.' Mark, iii. 3. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.' John, v. 40.

‖ 'The Jews sought the more to kill him, because he said that God was his Father.' John, v. 18.

Father, and I came down from heaven, where * He lives, and I shall go back to Him some day.'†

At last the people took up stones to throw at Him: but Jesus did not choose to die yet, so He easily got away and went to a place where they could not find Him.

There He stayed with His disciples a good while.‡

Once Jesus with His friends withdrew,
  A secret to impart;—
And can the mournful words be true?
  They grieve each loving heart.

'And shall our dearest Lord be slain?'
  The tender Peter cries:
'And shall *He* suffer shame and pain,
  Who rules o'er earth and skies?'

Thus Peter would the Lord persuade
  To live on earth at ease;
But Jesus has a promise made,
  And seeks His God to please.

He came to bring lost man relief,
  And suffer in his place,
And bitter pain, and shame, and grief,
  Must mar His lovely face.

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* 'I proceeded forth and came from God. I am from above.' John, viii. 42, 43.

† 'What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?' John, vi. 62.

‡ 'Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.' 'He escaped out of their hand, and went away again beyond Jordan.' John, x. 31, 39, 40.

For should He now from suff'ring shrink,
  Should He refuse to die,
Into the pit our souls must sink,
  In torments ever lie.

Fond Peter's words He will not hear,
  Who is the sinner's friend;
Our sins upon the cross He'll bear,
  And love us to the end.

And even Peter must consent,
  To give up all below:
Like Christ to suffer, be content,
  And after Him to go.

CHILD.

And shall I foolishly expect
  Never to suffer pain?
O let me ever recollect
  The blessed Lord was slain.

If He who all His suff'rings knew
  So willing was to die,
I feel I should be patient too,
  If I in pain should lie.

Full soon my griefs shall all be past,
  Since Christ has died for me:
And brighter joys, that ever last,
  My happy soul shall see.

## *LESSON XXVIII.*

### LAZARUS.

JOHN, xi. 1-17.

JESUS stayed with His disciples in a place by Himself. The wicked people, who wanted to kill Him, could not find Him, but Jesus' friends knew where He was.

Jesus had more friends besides His disciples.

One of His friends was called Lazarus. Lazarus had two sisters; their names were Martha and Mary. These three all lived together. They all three loved Jesus, and Jesus loved them. Jesus used often to come and see them, and sit in the house, and talk to them. Martha liked to make a fine dinner when Jesus came, but Mary liked to sit and listen to His sweet words.*

At last Lazarus fell very sick.

Martha and Mary loved their brother Lazarus very much indeed. They knew that Jesus could make Lazarus well; so they sent a man to tell Jesus that Lazarus was sick.

The man went a great way to look for Jesus.

Lazarus grew worse and worse. At last he died. His friends wrapped white cloths round his face, and his

* Luke, x. 38 to end.

arms and his legs, and put him in a great hole, and rolled a stone before it.

Martha and Mary waited and longed for Jesus to come.

Four days passed, and at last Jesus came.

Martha and Mary did not think that Jesus would make Lazarus alive again, for he had been dead so long: so they sat upon the ground and cried.

When Martha heard that Jesus was on the road a little way off, she came to Jesus and said, 'If you had been here, my brother had not died; and even now you could make him alive.'

Then Jesus said, 'Your brother shall rise again.'

'Yes,' said Martha, 'I know he will rise again at the last day, when all the dead people rise.'

Martha was afraid that Jesus would not choose to make Lazarus alive soon; but she knew that He was able to do it.

Martha went back to the house, and found Mary still sitting on the ground, and a great many friends round her.

Martha whispered in her ear, and told her that Jesus wanted to speak to her. So Martha and Mary went together, and found Jesus waiting for them in the road.

Mary's friends went with her, and they cried; and Mary cried very much indeed: and when she saw Jesus she fell down at His feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother had not died.'

Jesus was very sorry to see her so unhappy, and to see so many people crying: He felt very sad indeed, and He

sighed very deeply. Jesus does not like to see any one in trouble, He is so kind.

Then Jesus said, 'Where have you put Lazarus?'

Martha and Mary and their friends said, 'Come and see;' and they showed Him the way.

As Jesus walked along, the tears rolled down His cheeks.

At last they came to the grave. It was a hole, and a very large stone was before the hole.

Then Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.'

Martha thought that Jesus was going to look at Lazarus lying dead; and she said, 'Do not go in: his flesh has a bad smell by this time. He has been dead four days.' But Jesus told her to believe that He could make him alive.

They then rolled away the stone.

Then Jesus lifted up His eyes to His Father in heaven, and thanked Him for helping Him to do wonderful things.

A great many people were standing by, looking at Jesus, and wondering what He would do.

Poor Martha and Mary were longing to see Lazarus alive again.

Then Jesus spoke loud and said, 'Lazarus, come forth.'

Lazarus heard, though he was dead; for the dead hear the voice of Jesus. He got up and walked to the door of the hole. His hands were tied with cloths, and his feet wrapped round with cloths, and a cloth was over his face.

But Jesus said, 'Undo the cloths.'

How pleased Martha and Mary must have been to see his face again! How they must have thanked the Lord Jesus for His kindness!

The people who saw all this were surprised, and said, 'Jesus must be the Son of God.'

Why flow the blessed Saviour's tears?
Is it because the cross He fears?
Because He knows He soon shall die,
And shall within the cold grave lie?

He weeps to see the sisters weep
Of Lazarus, who lies asleep;
So tender is His heart, and kind,
That all from Him may pity find.

CHILD.

When I see others full of fears,
I will remember Jesus' tears;
And not upon my pleasures think,
While their sad hearts with sorrow sink.

## *LESSON XXIX.*

### JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM.

MATT. xxi. 1–11, 14–17.

WHICH was the greatest miracle that Jesus ever did? It was making Lazarus alive again; because he had been dead four days.

Many of the wicked people who hated Jesus heard of it: but they only hated Him the more. They said, 'We must kill Him soon, or every one will believe that He is the Son of God.'

Jesus knew that they wanted to kill Him, and so He went again and hid Himself in a place they did not know of. They looked for Him, but they could not find Him.

But could Jesus always stay in that little quiet place, where He was hid with His disciples? No. He came down to die for us. He only waited till the time came for Him to die. Then He said to His disciples, 'We must go up to Jerusalem, and I shall be laughed at, and beaten, and killed; but I shall come out of my grave after three days.'

The disciples did not like to hear this; but they chose to go with Jesus wherever He went.

Jesus walked fast along the road; at last He came near Jerusalem. Then He stopped and said to His

disciples, 'I shall ride into Jerusalem upon an ass.' Jesus had no ass of His own; He always walked from place to place. But Jesus could put it into a man's heart to lend Him one.

He said to two of His disciples, 'Go along the road a little way, and you will see an ass and a young ass tied, and a man standing near; bring the ass and the young one to me, for I know that the man will let them come.'

So the two disciples went: when they had gone a little way they saw an ass tied up, and a young one.

They began to untie the ass; but a man standing near said, 'Why do you untie the ass?'

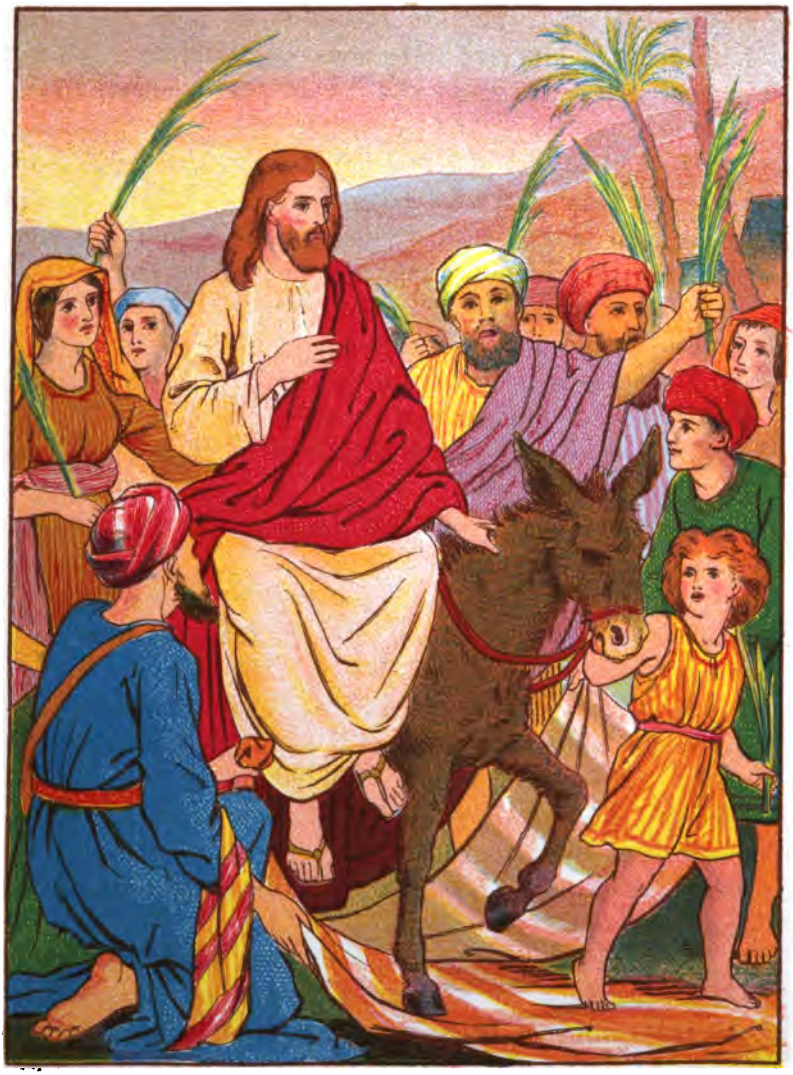
They said, 'The Lord hath need of them;' and then the man let them go.

I suppose that man loved the Lord Jesus, and liked to lend Him his things.

The two disciples brought the two asses to Jesus. They took off some of their clothes, and put them on the young ass, and Jesus sat upon it.

A great many people came out of Jerusalem to see Jesus, for they had heard of His making Lazarus alive again. The people began to praise Jesus, and call Him 'King.' They took off some of their clothes, and laid them down upon the road for the ass to tread upon; and they picked branches off the trees that grew near, and laid them too on the road.

So Jesus came to the great town of Jerusalem: all the people came into the streets to look at Him, and even the little children began to praise Him, and to call Him 'King.' The proud men, that hated Jesus, were very



JESUS ENTERING INTO JERUSALEM.

angry at hearing all these praises. They did not like to hear Jesus praised. They came to Him and said, 'Why do you let these children call you king?'

But Jesus liked to hear the children sing His praise, and He would not tell them to be silent.

Jesus loved little children, and these little children loved Jesus.

Jesus, on a young ass seated,
  Comes into Jerusalem;
See, by thousands he is greeted!
  Boughs are pluck'd and strew'd for him.

Hark! Jerusalem is ringing
  With loud shouts from many tongues!
Hark! the children too are singing;
  Jesus loves those infant songs.

'While they sing, my heart rejoices,'
  The dear Saviour sweetly said;
'For when babies lift their voices,
  Then my praise is perfected.'

CHILD.

Is my dearest Lord delighted
  With the songs of babes like me?
Then to sing I am invited,
  And I will not silent be.

## *LESSON XXX.*

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### THE TEMPLE.

LUKE, xix. 47, 48; xx. 19, 20; xxi. 37, 38.

THERE was a large place in Jerusalem, like a great church, called the 'Temple.' It was white outside, and very beautiful. The doors were open all day, and people used to go in to pray to God. It was God's house: Jesus used often to be there with His disciples. Poor blind and lame people came to Him there, and Jesus cured them all, and talked to them about His Father.

The little children sang His praises in the Temple.

All day long Jesus taught the people about God, and they listened to what He said, and liked to hear Him.

The wicked and proud men came to the Temple to laugh at Jesus, and to speak rudely to Him; but He bore all as meekly as a lamb.

At night He left the Temple, and went out of the town to a high hill, where He prayed to God alone in the dark.

The wicked men longed to catch Jesus to kill Him. They said to each other, 'How can we get Him? the people will not let us take hold of Him if they see us, or we would go to the Temple to catch Him. If we could

find Him alone in the dark, then we would put ropes on Him, and take Him to the judge.'

This is what the wicked people said to each other as they sat together.

Within the Temple fair and grand,
  (Where holy men are wont to pray,)
Behold the gentle Saviour stand,
  Teaching sweet wisdom all the day.

And many round Him fondly press,
  The blind, the lame, the weeping poor,
Who suffer sickness or distress,
  Or grace or pardon would implore.

But see, another troop is near,
  And much His words their pride displease;
Like hungry lions they appear,
  Who long a gentle lamb to seize.

The Saviour all their malice knows,
  And how His precious life they seek;
But still His lips He will not close,
  Because His Father bade Him speak.

Nor does His heav'nly patience fail,
  Nor does He cease His love to show;
But while they mock, and jeer, and rail,
  He strives to save their souls from woe.

CHILD.

And if, when trying to be kind,
  I too should with unkindness meet,
O let me show a patient mind,
  And ever let my words be sweet!

## *LESSON XXXI.*

### JUDAS.

JOHN, xii. 6. MATT. xxvi. 3, 4, 14–16.

JESUS had twelve disciples.

Did they all love Him?

Peter loved Jesus, and John loved Him, and all the rest loved* Him, but one; his name was Judas. He did not love Jesus, but only pretended to love Him. He was like the devil.†

Did Jesus know how wicked Judas was? Yes, He saw into his heart; but the disciples thought Judas was good;‡ for Judas used to kiss the Lord Jesus, and speak kindly to Him, and talk about God like the rest.

But Judas loved something; he loved money. He wanted to get a great deal of money.

He was covetous, and he was a thief. The disciples had a bag, and when they had money they put it in the

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* 'The Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me.' John, xvi. 27.

† 'Have I not chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?' John, vi. 70.

‡ This is evident, from the disciples trusting Judas with the bag, and from their failing to suspect him of treachery to their Lord when one of their number was accused.

bag; and all the disciples put their money in the same bag. But there was very little money in the bag, for they were very poor. Judas used to take care of the bag, and he used to steal some of the money out of it, and keep it for himself; but no one found him out, or thought he was a thief, except Jesus, and He knew it well.

Judas was always thinking, 'How shall I get money?'

One day, when the proud men were sitting together, Judas came in.

Judas said to them, 'You want to find Jesus when He is alone: will you give me some money, and I will show you where He goes at night?'

The proud people said, 'Yes, we will.'

Judas said, 'How much money will you give me?'

They said, 'Thirty pieces of silver.'

Then Judas said, 'Some night I will bring you to Jesus when He is alone.'

The wicked people were very glad to hear this.

'Now,' thought they, 'we shall soon catch Him and kill Him.'

Judas went back to Jesus, but he did not tell the disciples what he had done. Jesus knew what he had been doing; for Jesus could see all his thoughts, and He knew all that Judas did, both in the day and in the night. Yet Jesus did not tell Judas that He knew his wicked plans.

When Jesus on the earth abode,
  Some friends He had, though few;
Their love, alas! too faintly flowed,
  Yet 'twas sincere and true.

But one there was, whose heart was cold,
  Who did not love his Lord,
But sought of silver and of gold
  To make a plenteous hoard.

His wicked thoughts he hid from all,
  And piously would speak;
The Saviour, 'Lord and Master' call,
  And even kiss His cheek.

In vain he thus his love declar'd,
  And fond attention paid;
In vain in toil and danger shar'd,
  In vain he preach'd and pray'd:

Though none besides the sin perceiv'd
  (So closely veil'd by art),
Yet *He* could never be deceiv'd
  Who searches every heart.

Full well the blessed Saviour knew
  He was by sin enchain'd,
And from the bag in secret drew
  The money it contain'd.

He saw him in the depth of night,
  To gain a base reward,
Promise the Jews to please their spite,
  And to betray his Lord.

Thus Judas gold and silver chose,
  Instead of joys above,
And plunged his soul in endless woes,
  And lost his Master's love.

CHILD.

And such will be my wretched end
  (Whatever I appear),
If God I care not to offend,
  And man alone I fear.

If I, like Judas, talk and pray,
  And yet in secret steal,
I shall be punish'd in that day
  When God shall all reveal.

## *LESSON XXXII.*

### THE LAST SUPPER.—PART I.

LUKE, xxii. 7–14. JOHN, xiii. 1–17.

JESUS said to His disciples, 'I am going soon to be killed, but before I die I shall eat a supper with you in Jerusalem.'

Then Jesus said to Peter and John, 'Go and get the supper ready;' but they said, 'Where shall we get it ready?' For Jesus had no house in Jerusalem: but Jesus knew how to find a room.

So Jesus said to Peter and John, 'Go into Jerusalem, and you will meet a man carrying a jug; go after him: he will go into a house. The master of the house will lend me a room. Tell him that I am going to die, and that I want to eat a supper with my disciples.'

Then Peter and John went into Jerusalem.

Whom did they meet?

A man carrying a jug.

They followed him. He went into a house. Peter and John went in after him, and they said to the master of the house, 'Jesus wants a room to eat supper in with His disciples before He dies.'

Then the master took them upstairs, and showed them a large room, with a table in it, and seats all round the

table, and a jug, and a basin to wash their feet in, and a cup and dishes.

Then Peter and John got some bread and wine and other things, and made the supper ready; and they went back and told Jesus (who was a little way in the country) that supper was ready. So Jesus and all His disciples came to the house in the evening; they went upstairs, and they all sat down.

Jesus loved John better than all the rest, and John sat next to Jesus.

After they had been a little while at supper, Jesus got up and took a towel, and tied it round His waist; and He took a jug and poured water into a basin, and He began to wash His disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel round His waist.

But when He came to Peter, Peter said, 'You shall never wash my feet.'

Peter thought it was too kind of Jesus to wash his feet, as if he were a servant; but Jesus was not proud, but loved to be kind to His disciples.

Then Jesus said to Peter, 'If I wash you not, you cannot be mine; but I have made you clean already.' Jesus had made Peter's heart clean.

Then Peter was glad that Jesus should wash his feet.

All the disciples had clean hearts, except Judas, and his heart was full of wickedness: Satan was in it. Yet Jesus washed Judas' feet. He was kind even to wicked Judas, who hated Him.

When Jesus had washed all the disciples' feet He sat down again, and began to talk to them.

He said, 'Do you know what I have done to you? I have washed your feet, though I am your Lord and Master. I wish to teach you to be as kind to each other as I have been to you.'

When the sad hour was almost come,
  That Jesus must depart,
He gathered in an upper room
  Those dearest to His heart.

Ah! great was their astonishment,
  When, rising from His seat,
Upon the floor He lowly bent
  To wash His servants' feet.

Beside the board again He sat,
  And thus express'd His mind:
'If I, your Lord, upon you wait,
  O should not you be kind?

'O! let the love that I have shown
  By you remember'd be;
And by *your* love let it be known
  That you belong to me.'

CHILD.

O Lord! it is my fond desire
  That Thou my name wilt own;
And much the kindness I admire
  That in Thy actions shone.

But O! how hard to imitate!
  To Thee for help I call;
On others may I love to wait,
  And be the least of all.

## *LESSON XXXIII.*

### THE LAST SUPPER.—PART II.

JOHN, xiii. 21–30.

YOU know the wicked thing that Judas meant to do. Jesus knew that he would bring the wicked people to take Him and kill Him. Jesus had been very kind to Judas, and Jesus was sorry that he was so wicked.

As Jesus was sitting at supper, and all the twelve disciples sitting round, He said, 'One of you will give me to the wicked men to be killed! one of you, my disciples.'

All the disciples were very sorry, and Peter said, 'Is it I?' and John said, 'Is it I?' and each of them said, 'Is it I?' but Jesus did not tell them which.

Now John was leaning his head on Jesus' bosom, and Peter whispered to John and said, 'Do ask the Lord which it is that will show the wicked people where He is?'

So John whispered and said, 'Which is it?'

And Jesus said, 'The one that dips the bread in the sop with me.'

For there was a dish of sauce on the table, and Jesus dipped His bread in it, and as He dipped it one of the disciples put his hand in the dish too. Which was it?

Judas: he dipped his bread in the dish with Jesus. So John knew which it was that was so wicked.

Then Jesus said to Judas, 'Go, and do what you mean to do.'

And Judas got up and went out of the room.

Where did he go?

He went to the wicked people, to bring them to Jesus in the dark.

But the disciples thought he was going to buy something at a shop, or to give money to the poor.

One night the Saviour said,
'My hours to live are few:
I soon shall be betray'd,
My friends, by one of you.'
'Lord, is it I?'
They all do cry.

Beloved above the rest,
John lean'd his gentle head
Upon the Saviour's breast,
And, softly whisp'ring, said,
'Lord, tell me who
This thing shall do?'

'One of this little band,'
The Saviour, answ'ring, said,
'Will hither reach his hand,
And dip with me his bread.
Who dips with me
The same is he.'

## CHILD.

Dear Lord, how could it be
  That one who lived all day,
And ate his bread with Thee,
  Should Thy dear life betray?
    Ah! how could he
    Thus deal with Thee?

Not so would I reward
  Thy tender love to me;
I would, my dearest Lord,
  Thy faithful servant be:
    For Thou art He
    Who died for me.

## *LESSON XXXIV.*

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### THE LAST SUPPER.—PART III.

MATT. xxvi. 26–36. JOHN, xiv. 1–4; xviii. 1–3.

AFTER supper Jesus took some bread and broke it in little bits, and gave a piece to each of the disciples, and said, 'This is my body: I am going to die: eat this, and think of me.'

Then Jesus poured some wine into a cup, and told them all to drink out of it. He said, 'This is my blood; I shall soon bleed and die: drink this, and think of me.'

Jesus said, 'I shall not eat supper with you again before I die. I am going to my Father; I must leave you, but I shall come back again.'

Then they all sang a hymn.

Afterwards Jesus got up from the table and went downstairs into the street, and the disciples followed Him. It was dark; but Jesus talked to them as they went along. He said, 'I am going to die to-night, and you will all leave me.'

But Peter said, 'I will not leave you; I will go to

prison with you; I will die with you; but I will never leave you.'

Jesus said to him, 'Yes, you will, Peter; you will say that you do not know me; you will say that you are not my friend. This night, Peter, you will say so, before the cock crows.' (For cocks crow in the morning, when it is light.)

Jesus talked sweetly to His disciples. He said, 'Do not be sorry because I am going away. I shall go back to my Father, and I shall soon come back to you. When I am in heaven, I shall get ready a place in heaven for you. I command you to love one another, and I will send the Holy Spirit to cómfort you.'

At last Jesus came to a garden. He had often been to that garden with His disciples, and wicked Judas knew the place.

Where was Judas now?

He was with the wicked, proud men.

You will soon hear how he came to the garden, and how he brought the *servants* of the wicked men with him. For these wicked men meant to send their servants to catch Jesus.

'This is my flesh,' the sorrowing Saviour said,
And, as He spake, He gave the broken bread:
'This is my blood,' and then He bade all drink,
And of their dying Master ever think.
'This night I die: this night my body's bruised;
This night by wicked men my name's abused;
And even you, my dearest friends, shall fly,
And leave your Master all alone to die.'

His friends in sorrow heard; then promised
With Him they fondly loved their blood to shed;
And Peter loudest said, 'With thee I'll die,'
And little thought he should his Lord deny.

CHILD.

Sometimes I think I never will offend,
By doing wrong, my best, my heav'nly Friend;
How soon my heart forgets! To God I'll pray
For grace to keep me in His holy way.

## *LESSON XXXV.*

### THE GARDEN.

MATT. xxvi. 30–57. JOHN, xviii. 1–12.

WHEN Jesus was come to the garden, He told all His disciples to stop in one place till He came back, except three that He took with Him.

Who were they?

Peter, James, and John. He took them further on in the garden, and then said to them, 'I feel very sad indeed. I am going to pray. Do you stay here. Do not go to sleep, but pray while I am praying.'

Then Jesus went a little way off by Himself, and fell upon the ground, and began to pray to His Father to help Him. He ended His prayer by saying, 'O Father, do what thou wilt, not what I will.'*

He prayed very earnestly, and He felt so unhappy that the blood came out of His skin, and fell on the ground. Then He got up and went back to Peter, and James, and John, but He found them asleep. He woke them, and told them to pray.

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* 'Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications, with strong crying and tears, unto him that was able to save him from death.' Heb. v. 7.

Then He went back and prayed again to His Father, to help Him in His great sorrow; then He came back to His disciples, but they had fallen asleep again.

Then Jesus prayed again, and His Father sent an angel from heaven to comfort Him. I do not know what the angel said, but I know the angel loved Him, and could speak sweet words to Him, and tell Him how His Father loved Him. The angel did not stay long; he soon went back to God.

Then Jesus came again to His disciples, and found them still asleep. But Jesus woke them and told them to get up; 'for Judas,' he said, 'is near.'

While Jesus was saying this, a great many people were seen walking in the garden. These were the servants of the proud men in Jerusalem. They had swords, and sticks, and lanterns in their hands. And Judas went before them to show them where Jesus was. But Judas came up slily to Jesus, and gave Him a kiss, pretending to love Him.

Jesus knew what Judas was doing, and He said, 'Friend, why do you come here? and why do you kiss me?'

Jesus did not run away, but He went up to the wicked men, and said, 'Whom are you looking for?'

They said, 'For Jesus.'

He said, 'I am He.'

When He said that, God made all the wicked people fall upon their backs upon the ground. Then Jesus could have run away; but He chose to stay, that He might die for sinners.

The wicked people soon got up; God let them get up; but Jesus said to them, 'If you want to have me, you must let my disciples go away.'

It was kind of Jesus to think of them, and they were frightened and glad to get away; they did not wish to stay to die with Jesus.

But Peter took a sword and cut off one of the wicked men's ears. Peter wished to fight; but Jesus said, 'Put up your sword. If I were to pray now to my Father, He would send thousands of angels to help me.'* Then Jesus touched the man's ear, and made it well.

Why did not Jesus pray to God to send the angels?

Because He chose to die to save us. Had the angels come, and taken Jesus back to heaven, then we should all have gone to hell.

Peter and all the rest of the disciples ran away, and left Jesus quite alone with the wicked men. They took ropes, and tied His hands and feet, and they led Him away into Jerusalem; and He went along meekly as a lamb.

How dreadful was the hour
  When Christ, the Son of God,
Was bruis'd by Satan's pow'r,
  And sweat great drops of blood!
His soul was struggling hard with fear,
When He pour'd out His griefs in pray'r.

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* 'The cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?' John, xviii. 11.

How earnestly He pray'd
  The cup might pass away!
But, though so sore afraid,
  These words would ever say,
'Father, *Thy* will, not mine, be done.'
Such was Thy pray'r, O blessed Son!

And should it not be mine?
  Full well, my God, I know
That holy will of Thine
  Would save my soul from woe;
But should I have *my* foolish will,
My soul in hell would perish still.

Then why do I complain
  I can't have all I would,
Since God will give me pain
  Only to do me good?
And in the end He'll send relief,
And give me joy instead of grief.

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'*What! could ye not watch with me one hour?*' Matt. xxvi. 40.

The friends who meant a watch to keep,
With grief opprest have fall'n asleep,
  While their dear Master pray'd.
Since *they* no comfort can impart,
An angel comes to cheer His heart,
  Which is of death afraid.

Could they not watch one little hour
With Him they soon should see no more
  Upon this earth beneath?

Not watch with *Him* in *His* distress,
Who was all love and tenderness,
  And still did pity breathe?

But hear the Saviour gently speak:
He says, though willing they are weak,
  And bids them rise and pray.
Oh! now the hour of pray'r is past;—
The enemy is come at last
  To take the Lord away.

Oh! how I love the patience rare,
With which I see my Saviour bear
  His friends' unkind neglect!
Though He to them such love has shown,
He might when suff'ring thus alone
  Their tenderest care expect.

And when my angry passions rise
I'll set the Lord before my eyes,
  His gentle voice I'll hear;
And the same patience try to show
If left alone in pain or woe
  By my companions dear.

## *LESSON XXXVI.*

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### PETER'S DENIAL.

MATT. xxvi. 57 to end.

THE wicked proud men, who hated Jesus, had sat up all night. They had sent their servants with some soldiers to fetch Jesus. They were in a fine house, seated on seats round the room, talking together, and longing for Jesus to be brought.

They said one to another, 'We will have Him killed when He comes—we will take Him to the judge.'

At last Jesus came in with the wicked servants. The proud men were glad to see Him. They made Him stand up in the midst of the large room. Then they spoke roughly. 'Are you the Son of God?' they said.

'Yes,' said Jesus, 'I am; and one day you will see me coming in the clouds with the angels.'

Then the wicked men were angry.

'Do you hear what He says?' they cried out. 'He calls Himself the Son of God! He must be taken to the judge to be killed.'

Jesus stood meekly all this while, and hardly spoke a word.

What was become of the disciples?

They had run away.

Had Peter run away?

Peter said he would die with Jesus. But he ran away too.

At last Peter thought, 'I will go and look for Jesus; I should like to see what the wicked men are doing to Him.'

So Peter came to Jerusalem, and into the fine house. He came into the hall first: the wicked servants were sitting round a fire in the hall; a door was open, and through the door Peter could see Jesus. There He was, standing before the wicked men. Peter hoped that nobody would know that he was one of Jesus' disciples, lest he should be killed. But as Peter was sitting by the fire, warming himself, a maid said to him, 'You are one of Jesus' disciples.'

Then Peter was frightened, and said, 'No, I am not; I do not know the man you speak of.'

Then Peter got up, and went outside the door; but another maid said to him, 'I am sure you are one of the disciples of Jesus.'

'No,' said Peter, 'I am not.' So Peter went back again to the fire, and began talking with the servants.

But some of them remembered having seen Peter in the garden, and they came to Peter and said, 'We are certain that you are one of the disciples.' 'I saw you in the garden,' said one.

Then Peter began to swear, and to say that he was not.

While Peter was speaking so wickedly he heard a cock crow.

Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said, and he looked at Jesus, and Jesus turned round His face and

looked at Peter. It was such a look! Jesus did not speak, but His look seemed to say, 'Is this Peter, my friend, who said he would die with me? Is this his love for me? Does he say he does not know me?'

Peter felt very sorry; he felt as if his heart would break, and he went out of the house, and began to cry very much indeed. For Peter did really love Jesus; only Satan had tempted him to be so wicked as to say he did not know Him.

If Peter had prayed in the garden instead of going to sleep, he would have behaved better. But Christ had often prayed for Peter, that Satan might not get his soul at last.*

When Peter sat within the hall,
To see what should his Lord befall,
He said he never knew the man,
And e'en to curse and swear began.
His sorrowing Master turn'd His head,
And by His look He sweetly said,
'Does Peter say he knows me not?
Has Peter then my love forgot?'

Soon Peter wept most bitterly
That he had dared his Lord deny.
His Lord is mine: I love Him too,
Oh! may I prove to Him more true!
But if I sin, oh! grant that I
May weep, like Peter, bitterly;
And may it pierce me like a sword,
To think I've griev'd my dearest Lord.

* 'Satan hath desired to have thee, &c. &c.: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not.' Luke, xxii. 31, 32.

JESUS BEFORE PILATE.

## *LESSON XXXVII.*

### PONTIUS PILATE.

JOHN, xviii. 22 to end. MATT. xxvi. 67, 68. JOHN, xix. 1–16.

ALL night long, Jesus stood in the great room; He heard all Peter said, and that must have grieved Him. The wicked people were like lions and tigers, and Jesus like a lamb. They looked at Him as if they hated Him.*

Once when He spoke, a servant slapped His face; but He bore this meekly.

The judge was not up yet, for it was night; so the wicked people were forced to wait till the morning.

That night the servants came round Jesus and beat Him, and pushed Him, and laughed at Him, and even spat in His face.

When the morning came, the wicked people said, 'Now we will bring Him to the judge.'

So they went out of their fine house and took Jesus with them.

The judge sat upon a high seat in the street.

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* 'They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion.' Ps. xxii. 12. 'They gnashed upon me with their teeth.' Ps. xxxv. 16.

His name was Pontius Pilate. The judge did not know Jesus. The judge said, 'What has He done?'

The wicked people said, 'He calls Himself a king.'

Then Pilate said to Jesus, 'Are you a king?' and Jesus said, 'Yes, I am.' But Pilate thought that He looked very good, and he did not like to punish Him.

Then the wicked men made a great noise, and said, 'You must crucify Him.'

'No,' said Pilate, 'I will beat Him, and that will be enough.' So Pilate gave Jesus to some soldiers, who took Him into a house and beat Him with knotted ropes, (this way of beating is called scourging,) and all the blood ran down His back. Then the cruel soldiers laughed at Him, because He said He was a king. They took off His own clothes, and put some fine clothes on Him, such as kings wear, purple and red.

Then they said, 'We must put a crown on His head.' So they took prickly thorns, sharp like pins, and twisted them together, and made a crown, and put it on His head.

They said, 'He must have a sceptre,' (for kings hold something called a sceptre in their hands,) so they put a reed in His hand for a sceptre; then they took it from Him, and beat Him on the head: and they knelt down to Him laughing, and said, 'O king! O king!'

Pilate saw the soldiers tormenting Him, and he brought Jesus into the street, where the wicked people were, and he showed Jesus to them, and said, 'Look at your king.'

Pilate hoped they would be sorry to see Him so ill-used; blood upon His forehead from the thorns, and His

back scourged, and dressed in fine clothes to mock Him: but the wicked people were cruel like tigers.

'No,' said they, 'crucify Him! crucify Him!' All the people cried out, 'Crucify Him!' though Jesus had always been so kind to them.

'Will you crucify your king?' said Pilate.

'He shall not be our king,' the people said. There was a very great noise in the street, from the people all speaking at once.

Then Pilate thought he would please the wicked people, and he said, 'Take Him and crucify Him.' Then the people were glad. But first the soldiers took the fine clothes off Jesus, and put His own clothes on Him again.

How wicked it was of Pilate to let Him be crucified! Pilate thought Jesus was good, yet he let Him be killed to please the people.

What! is there none to take *His* part
  Who silent, trembling, bleeding, stands?
Not one to cheer His broken heart,
  Or snatch Him from those cruel hands?

A thousand voices lifted high
  Now fill with horrid shouts the air—
'Away with Him and crucify!'
  Nor does *one* friend for Him appear.

Behold how men His love reward!
  His tender flesh the scourge has torn,
His gentle hands are bound with cord,
  His head is crown'd with prickly thorn.

But why did God the Father let
  His only Son be treated thus?—
He sent His Son to pay our debt,
  And suffer all this pain for us.

'Twas I deserved, O dearest Lord,
  My flesh should be with scourging torn,
My little hands be bound with cord,
  *My* head be crown'd with prickly thorn.

And now what can I do for Him
  Who suffer'd all this pain for me?
Whene'er I feel or hear of sin,
  I'll think, O dearest Lord, of thee.

Nor shall my hands in anger strike,
  When Thy dear hands for me were bound;
Nor shall my head with passion shake,
  When Thine with prickly thorns was crown'd.

And when I hear one smiling tell,
  Of sinful things that men have done,
I will not smile, but sorrow feel,
  Because sin bruis'd God's only Son.

## *LESSON XXXVIII.*

### DEATH OF JUDAS.

MATT. xxvii. 3–5.

WHERE was Judas all this while? The wicked people had given him the money, thirty pieces of silver: but Judas could not be happy.

'Ah!' thought he, 'I have killed my good Master! what a wicked thing I have done!'

Judas felt that he could not like the money: he could not bear to keep it, because he had done such a wicked thing to get it. So Judas went to look for the wicked men. They had been sitting up all night talking against Jesus: but now they were in God's house—the Temple.

Judas brought the thirty pieces of silver in his hands, and threw them down on the floor near the wicked men. Judas said, 'I have done a very wicked thing.'

But the men did not care for *that:* all they wanted was to get Jesus killed.

They picked up the pieces of silver from the floor, and went and bought a field with the money.

And where did Judas go?

He went out to the field to kill himself. He did not

go and ask Jesus to forgive him, but went and hanged himself. I suppose he tied a rope round his neck, and fastened the rope to a tree. Afterwards he fell down from the tree, and his body burst, and his blood was poured out on the ground.* O what a horrible sight it must have been! But it was more horrible to think where Judas' soul was gone.

It was gone to hell—to Satan.

It was very wicked of Judas to hang himself, instead of praying to God to forgive him.

Judas is in the wicked place now;† and Jesus will judge him at the last day, and say, 'Depart, you cursed!'

The horrid deed is done,
  And Jesus is betray'd;
The price of God's own Son
  To Judas has been paid:
But peace of mind he never more shall know:
This deed shall plunge his soul in endless woe.

Alas! what shall he do,
  Where shall he hide his head?
The dreadful news is true
  That Christ to death is led.
Within the grave shall hapless Judas hide
His wretched head; his soul in hell abide.

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* 'And falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.' Acts, i. 18.

† 'This apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.' Acts, i. 25.

Such is the fearful end
  Of one whom Jesus taught,
Who was His chosen friend,
  Who works of mercy wrought.
One secret sin, within his bosom nurs'd,
Brought him to share the portion of the curs'd.

O God! I fly to Thee
  To search my sinful heart,
Lest I should cursed be,
  And from Thy face depart:
Lest I should ever know the bitter pains
That devils feel midst 'darkness, fire, and chains.'

## *LESSON XXXIX.*

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### THE CROSS.—PART I.

LUKE, xxiii. 26–34.

THE wicked people were very glad when Pilate said Jesus was to be crucified. They made a cross of two great pieces of wood like boards, and made Jesus carry it. They took Him out of Jerusalem into the country. The wicked people came with Him.

Jesus was so weak that He could hardly walk, and the cross was so heavy that He could not carry it. He would have dropped down on the way, if a man had not helped Him to carry the cross.

There were a few people who were sorry for the Lord Jesus.

Some women, who loved Him very much, came crying after Him. Jesus heard them crying, and He turned round and spoke very kindly to them.

He said, 'Do not cry for me; cry for yourselves, and for your children.' Why did Jesus tell them to cry for themselves? Ah! Jesus knew how God would one day punish the people in Jerusalem for their wickedness.

At last Jesus came to the top of a hill. Then the soldiers made Jesus lie upon His cross, and they put nails

JESUS BEARING THE CROSS.

in His hands, and nails in His feet. So they nailed Him to the cross. Then the soldiers made a hole in the ground, and stuck the cross in it.

They had taken off Jesus' clothes; and when He was on the cross four soldiers tore the clothes in four pieces, and each took a piece: but when they looked at His coat they said, 'We will not tear it, because there is no seam in it;' then one of the soldiers took it for his own. So the wicked people took everything away from Jesus.

Was Jesus very angry with them?

No, He was meek as a lamb. He prayed to His Father while He was upon the cross; He could not lift up His hands, but He could speak to God. He prayed for these wicked people, and said, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.'

'Father, forgive,' the sufferer cries,
  'Because they know not what they do.'
To heav'n He lifts His dying eyes:
  Was such a prayer e'er heard below?

Tell me for whom the Saviour prays?
  For those who bear Him deadly hate,
Who spat upon His lovely face,
  And pierced His blessed hands and feet.

And does the Saviour pray for these?
  Ah! then I see that I should pray
For all who hurt me, vex, or tease,
  By spiteful things they do or say.

Alas! I feel my heart's inclin'd
  To do to them as they to me,
And by my words and deeds unkind
  To let all such my anger see.

Yet *I* have sinn'd against my God,
  And disobey'd ten thousand times:
Am I prepar'd to feel His rod
  Avenging my ten thousand crimes?

And thus He says He'll deal with me,
  If I'm unwilling to forgive;
For only those *like* Christ shall see
  The glorious place where angels live.

## *LESSON XL.*

### THE CROSS.—PART II.

LUKE, xxiii. 35–43.

PONTIUS PILATE wrote these words on the top of Jesus' cross: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

Who were the Jews?

The people who lived in Jerusalem were called Jews.

All the wicked people laughed when they read these words; they shook their heads, and pouted their lips at Jesus, and said, 'If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.'

Could Jesus have come down?

He could do everything; but He chose to stay to die for sinners.

The wicked people said, 'If God loved Him, He would not leave Him to die on the cross.'

But His Father let Him die to save us.

There was a cross on each side of Jesus, and a thief nailed upon each cross. One of these thieves laughed at Jesus; He said, 'Why do you not save us, if you are the Son of God?'

The other thief was sorry for his sins, and he loved Jesus.

The thief who was sorry said to the other thief, 'We have been naughty, we deserve to be crucified; but Jesus is quite good.' Then he spoke to Jesus, and said, 'Remember me when you come to be king.'

And Jesus said, 'You shall be with me in heaven to-day.' So Christ heard the poor thief's prayer: for Jesus died that He might save all who believed that He was the Son of God.

If you go to heaven you will see that poor thief.

Upon the hill where Jesus died
A thief was plac'd on either side,
  Each nail'd upon a tree.
The one revil'd Christ's name in death,
The other cried, with dying breath,
  'O Lord! remember me.'

The Saviour heard the poor thief's prayer,
And promis'd He would take him where
  Our God and angels dwell.
Alas! his life was spent in sin:
What joy a heaven at last to win
  And to escape from hell!

And oh! for him what glad surprise
When heavenly glories met his eyes,
  And Christ array'd in light!
He just had seen the dying pains,
That had releas'd his soul from chains
  And everlasting night.

Ah! sure of all the hosts that sing
The praises of their heav'nly King,
  His voice will loudest sound:

For when just trembling on the brink,
And just about in hell to sink,
  Pardon and grace he found.

CHILD.

I would not wish *my* life to spend,
Like him, a stranger to the Friend
  Who gave His life for me;
But yet, like him, whene'er I die,
Let this be my expiring cry—
  'O Lord! remember me.'

## *LESSON XLI.*

### THE CROSS.—PART III.

JOHN, xix. 25–30. MATT. xxvii. 45–54.

JESUS' mother, Mary, stood near the cross. She came to see her Son die. She was very sorry; she felt her heart full of pain at the sight.'*

She loved her dear, good Son, who had been kind to her ever since He was a baby, and had never done one thing wrong, and she knew He was the Son of God. Jesus was sorry to see His mother's grief.

John had come to the cross, and he was standing near Mary.

Jesus wished John to take care of His mother, now that He was going to leave her. So He said to His mother, 'Behold thy son.' And He said to John, 'Behold thy mother.' John knew what Jesus meant, and he took Mary to be his mother, and made her live with him.

Jesus loved His mother, and thought of her when He was dying.

Jesus was full of pain, and it was very hot. He said, 'I thirst!' and the soldiers took a sponge, and dipped it in vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to Jesus.

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* 'A sword shall pierce through thy own soul also.' Luke, ii. 35.

Jesus just tasted the vinegar, and said, 'It is finished!' and then He died. His spirit went to His Father, but His body hung upon the cross.

It was three o'clock in the afternoon when Jesus died. He had been nailed to the cross all the day.

Before Jesus died, God had made it very dark, to show He was angry with the wicked people. And God made the earth shake, and the people were frightened; and when Jesus was dead, some of them said, 'This must have been the Son of God.'

Mary beholds One dying there,
Whom in her arms she once did bear,
  And to her bosom press.
On her He casts His pitying eye,
For who should now *His* place supply,
  And cheer her loneliness?

The loving John shall be her son,
And cherish her till life is done,
  Within his humble home:
And oft together they shall speak
Of Him who, once despis'd and weak,
  At last in clouds shall come.

Oh! gentle Lord, how great the love
Which made Thy tender pity move,
  E'en in the hour of death!
O let me show my parents dear
The same kind love and thoughtful care,
  Until their latest breath.

## *LESSON XLII.*

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### THE SOLDIERS.

JOHN, xix. 32–37.

AT last the soldiers came to see if Jesus and the two thieves were dead, that they might bury them before night. The soldiers looked at one thief, and they saw he was not dead; so they broke his legs, and that killed him. Then they looked at the other thief, and they saw he was not dead; so they broke his legs. Then they looked at Jesus, and they saw He was dead, so they did not break His legs: but one of the soldiers took a long stick with a sharp point at the end, called a spear, and put it in His side; and out of His side blood and water came flowing upon the ground. John was standing near, and he saw the blood poured out.

Do you remember how Jesus, at supper the night before, had poured wine in a cup, and said, 'This is my blood, which is shed for sinners?'

Now His blood was poured out.

The spear made a hole in Jesus' side. There was a hole in His side, and a hole in each hand, and a hole in each foot; and His forehead was pricked with thorns, and His eyes had shed many tears, and blood had come from

His skin. All this He suffered for us, that God might forgive us our sins.*

'Yes, He is surely dead,'
The cruel soldier said;
Then pierced the Saviour's side.
Behold a mingled tide
Of blood and water, flowing from the wound,
Covers with crimson stains Golgotha's ground!

The loving John was near;
He saw the soldier's spear
Bring forth that wondrous flood
Of water and of blood;
And well remember'd how his Master said,
He came for sinful man His blood to shed.

The blood that flow'd that day
Long since has pass'd away:
But still there flows a stream
(Though by all eyes unseen)
For those that trust the blood on Calvary spilt;
And in *that* stream their souls are wash'd from guilt.

And does it flow for me?
And can I washèd be?
For oft my soul has been
Spotted, and stain'd with sin.
Mercy I ask, because my Saviour died;
And *thus* (as by a stream) I'm purified.

* 'In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.' Eph. i. 7.

## *LESSON XLIII.*

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### THE GRAVE.

JOHN, xix. 38 to end. LUKE, xxiii. 55, 56. MATT. xxvii. 60.

THERE was one rich man who loved Jesus; his name was Joseph (not Mary's husband, this was another Joseph); he had a garden, and in the garden he had made a grave: perhaps he meant to be buried there himself when he came to die.

But now Joseph thought, 'I should like to put the Lord Jesus in my grave.' It was a very nice grave, and no one had ever been put there yet.

So Joseph went to Pontius Pilate, and said, 'I want the dead body of Jesus: may I take it down from the cross, and keep it myself?'

And Pilate said, 'Yes, you may have it.'

Then Joseph was glad. He bought some nice white clean linen. What do you think that was for? To wrap Jesus in. And he bought some spices (sweet-smelling things that grow out of the ground), and he brought some men with him, and they took the nails out of Jesus' hands and feet, and took His body down from the cross. Then Joseph wrapped a cloth round His head, and another

cloth round His waist, and he put sweet spices on Him; and then some men carried Him along to Joseph's garden.

In the garden there was a high place called a rock, and a hole in the rock, like a hole in a wall; and they walked into this large dark hole, and they laid Jesus down quite alone. Now He was at rest; He felt no pain, no sorrow: the wicked people were not near; and there lay the Lord in His quiet grave. The men took a very large stone and stopped up the hole, so that nobody could get in. No beast, no bird, could touch the Lord Jesus. There were trees and flowers near Him in this sweet garden, and there were angels there watching over Him, though no one could see them.

Where were the poor women who loved Jesus?

They had been looking at Him on the cross. How they must have cried when they saw Him bleed, and heard Him cry out to God!

The poor women had seen the men take Him down from the cross. They had followed the men into the garden; they had seen Him put so carefully in His grave.

They said to each other, 'Let us get more spices, and make sweet ointment to put on the Lord Jesus.'

Joseph had put some spices, but they wanted to put more. So they went home and made nice ointment.

In the cold grave the Saviour's sleeping,
While angels bright are watching near;
At home His loving friends are weeping,
For they have lost their Master dear.

His painful suff'rings now are ended;
  His wounded body is at rest;
His soul, from ev'ry ill defended,
  Reposes on His Father's breast.

CHILD.

Then when to die the Lord shall call me,
  Oh! why should I the cold grave fear?
For how should any ill befall me,
  Since my dear Saviour once lay there?

## *LESSON XLIV.*

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### THE RESURRECTION.

MARK, xvi. 1–6. LUKE, xxiv. 3–10. MATT. xxviii. 9, 10.

ONE morning very early, when Jesus had been dead only two days, the poor women came into the garden. It was not quite light yet, for the sun was just rising.

As the women walked along with their ointment they said to each other, 'How shall we get into the grave? The men put a large stone before it; the stone is so big, we cannot roll it away.' The women did not know what to do.

At last they came to the grave, but the stone was rolled away.

The women were quite surprised.

Then they were afraid some wicked people had rolled it away, and stolen the body of Jesus.

This made them very sad; they looked into the grave, and saw that Jesus was not there. Soon they saw two beautiful angels standing by them. Their faces were bright like the sun, their clothes whiter than snow.

The women trembled when they saw the angels; but the angels spoke sweetly and kindly to them, saying, 'Do not be afraid; we know that you are looking for Jesus. He is not here now; He is alive. Do you not remember

how He said He would come to life again, after He had been crucified?'

'Come,' said the angels, 'and look at the place where Jesus lay. Run quickly, and tell His disciples that Jesus is alive, and that they shall see Him very soon.'

The women were very glad indeed; they ran as quickly as they could to tell the disciples. But as they were running, whom do you think they saw? Jesus Himself! He did not look as He once had looked; no tears were on His cheeks; they were all wiped away.* He was not weak and faint as when He carried His cross. He never could be sick any more; nor could He ever die again.†

How much pleased the women were to see Him! They knelt down on the ground, and held His feet that He might not go away, and they called Him their Lord and their God. Yet still they felt a little afraid; but Jesus told them not to be afraid.

Jesus said, 'Go tell my brothers that I shall soon see them again.'

Whom did Jesus call His brothers?

His disciples. He had forgiven them for having run away when the wicked men took Him.

The poor women ran, as Jesus had told them, to the disciples, and said, 'We have seen angels; we have seen the Lord Jesus! He is walking about, and you will see

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* 'Thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.' Ps. xxi. 6.

† 'Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more.' Rom. vi. 9.

Him soon.' But the disciples would not believe the women.

Behold how swift those women fly,
Both fear and joy are in their eye;
Ah, sure they've seen some glorious thing,
Or haste some glorious news to bring.

An angel's voice they lately heard:
To them the Lord has just appear'd;
With fear their hearts are beating fast;
With joy the news to tell they haste.

They lately wept their dying Lord:
Now to their eyes He is restor'd:
He for their sakes has shed His blood,
And now is prov'd the Son of God.

I wonder not their joy is great,
For what could greater joy create?
Have they not found that matchless Friend,
On whom their hopes for heaven depend?

And in their joy have *I* no share?
*My* sins did He not also bear?
Yes, 'twas to save *my* soul from pain
The Saviour died and rose again.

Then, Jesus, with my infant breath,
I'll praise Thy love so strong in death;
And of Thy glorious rising think,
When in the grave I gently sink.

## *LESSON XLV.*

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### MARY MAGDALENE.

JOHN, xx. 1–19.

I HAVE told you of two Marys; Mary the mother of Jesus, and another Mary, the sister of Lazarus. But there was another still, called Mary Magdalene. She came very early to the grave, before the other women came. She looked into the grave, but saw no angels; so she came running back, and told Peter and John that Jesus was not in His grave. 'I am afraid,' said Mary Magdalene, 'that some wicked people have taken Him away, and that we shall not be able to find Him.'

So Peter and John began to run as fast as they could, but John ran the fastest, and he came first to the grave. He stooped down and peeped in, and he saw the clothes lying in the grave.

Soon after Peter came, and he went down into the grave, and he saw the clothes neatly folded, and the cloth that was round Jesus' head lying in a place by itself.

Then John went in, too; and John thought of what Jesus had said about being alive again.

'It is all true,' thought John; 'He is alive, and has left His grave.'

Then Peter and John came out of the grave, and went to their own house: but they saw no angels, nor did they see Jesus.

Where was Mary Magdalene all this time?

She was standing crying outside the grave: she was quite alone; for Peter and John were gone home.

At last she stooped down and looked into the grave, and she saw a beautiful sight—two angels, one sitting where Jesus' head had been, and one where His feet had been!

The angels said to Mary, 'Why do you cry?' but still she went on crying, and said, 'Some people have taken away the Lord Jesus, and I cannot find Him!'

When she had said this, she heard a man behind her saying, 'Why do you cry?'

She did not know who it was that spoke; she thought perhaps it was the gardener. 'If you have taken Him,' said she, 'tell me where you have put Him, and I will take Him away.'

The man said, 'Mary!' She knew that voice, and turning round she looked, and saw that it was Jesus. How glad she was to see her Lord and Master, whom she loved! But Jesus could not stay with her. He told her to go and tell His dear disciples that He was alive. 'I am soon going up to my Father in heaven; but I shall see my disciples first.'

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples. They were all crying, but they would not believe what Mary said.

Mary was glad that she had gone to look for Jesus. She was the first of all the people who saw Jesus after He was alive again.*

And why is Mary full of fears?
Her eye—why so bedimm'd with tears,
  While gazing on that grave?
She cannot find the *body* there
Of One who lives, who's standing near,
  Whose arm from death can save.

'Why weepest thou?' the Saviour cries.
'I've lost my Lord,' she quick replies!
  And thinks not it is He.
He speaks again; His voice she knows,
And now her heart with joy o'erflows
  Her dearest Lord to see.

His breathless clay she lately sought
Within the tomb!—and little thought
  Of this supreme delight.
Oh! vain were all her anxious fears,
And vain were all her bitter tears,
  That flowed both day and night.

And is not He for ever near,
Although His voice we cannot hear,
  Nor see His glorious face?

* 'He appeared first to Mary Magdalene.' Mark, xvi. 9.

Yes: over us His wings are spread,
And blessings still are gently shed,
  For He fills ev'ry place.

The day shall come, when in the skies
We shall behold Him with our eyes,
  And know as we are known:
But while we wait for that sweet day
We'll wipe our bitter tears away,
  Since we are not alone.

## *LESSON XLVI.*

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### THE TWO FRIENDS.

LUKE, xxiv. 13–48.

IT was early in the morning that the women went to look for Jesus. In the evening two good men were taking a walk together in the country. As they walked, they talked about Jesus. They had not seen Him since He was alive again: they did not know He was alive. They talked about His dying on the cross. It made them very sad to speak about it.

At last a man came and spoke to them; they thought he was a stranger; yet he seemed to be a kind man.

He said, 'Why do you cry? I see you are talking of something very sad.'

'Yes,' said these good men, 'we are talking of something sad. Did you never hear of Jesus? What wonderful things He did, how He cured the blind, and dumb, and sick; and how He taught people about God? and all the people loved Him; but at last He was crucified. We thought He had been the Son of God: but now we are afraid He was not, for He is dead, and we are afraid that we shall never see Him again.'

The kind stranger was sorry to see these good men cry. He began to talk to them, and to tell them that

Jesus was the Son of God, and that He had been crucified to save men, and that He would rise again, and go back to His Father.

This kind stranger said a great deal more. He knew all the verses in the Bible, and told these men a great many things they did not know. They liked to listen to the stranger, they did not feel so sad while He was talking.

At last these men came to their own house: it was in the country. The stranger seemed as if He was going on; but the good men said to Him, 'Pray stay at our house; it is getting dark. Come and sup with us, and sleep here: pray, pray come in.'

Then the stranger said He would come in.

The men went into a room where there was a supper. They all three sat down together round the table. The stranger took some bread and broke it, and began to pray to God; and then the two men found out who the stranger was.

'It is the Lord!' they cried; and so it was. They looked towards Him, but they could see Him no more. He opened not the door, but yet He was gone.

Then the men thought of all that Jesus had said. 'How sweetly He talked to us!' they said; 'did we not feel our hearts quite warm, while He talked to us?' they said; 'did we not feel our hearts quite warm, while He was speaking about the Bible, and telling us the meaning?'

Do you think these men went to bed that night?

O no! they could not sleep.

'Let us go,' said they, 'and tell the disciples about our seeing Jesus.' So they left the supper, and set out in the night. They walked quickly, and soon came to Jerusalem.

The disciples were all shut up in a room together. They had locked the doors to prevent the wicked people getting in: but they let these good men come in. The disciples were at supper.

'We have seen Jesus!' said these good men. 'He has walked with us, and talked with us; but we did not know Him till He sat down with us at supper, and broke some bread, and gave thanks to His Father.' The disciples said, 'Some women have seen Him, and Peter has seen Him.'

But while they were eating supper and talking about Jesus, they looked and saw Jesus standing in the middle of the room. Though the door was locked, yet He had come in.

How do you think the disciples felt? They were frightened: they could not believe that it was indeed Jesus Himself.

Jesus spoke kindly to them. 'Why are you afraid?' He said. 'Look at my hands and feet. It is I myself.' Then Jesus showed His disciples the marks that the nails had made in His hands and feet, and the hole that the spear had made in His side.

Then the disciples saw that it was their own dear Master. They were glad, very glad, to see Him: they had been crying ever since they had lost Him. They saw that He had forgiven them for having run away. He

said nothing to them about it: He had even forgiven Peter. He knew that Peter loved Him, and that he was very sorry.

The disciples were so much surprised to see Jesus, that they could hardly believe that He was alive. Jesus knew that they did not quite believe; so He said, 'Have you anything to eat?' Then the disciples gave Him a piece of fish and some honey from their supper; and Jesus took them and began to eat, that the disciples might see that He was really alive.

Then afterwards He talked to them, and told them why He had died, and that He was going back to His Father to pray for them.

That was a pleasant night for the poor disciples. It was not like that sad night when Jesus was so sorrowful in the garden. His sorrows were over, and He never would feel pain any more.

There are but three around that table met:
'Tis their last meal, for now the sun has set.
One breaks the bread. I know that lovely face,
That voice—but lo! He's vanished from the place.

'Was it an angel? No, it was the Lord.
He lives again,—He is to us restor'd.'
What joy now fills these hearts that late were fill'd
With fears! Ah, now for ever—ever still'd!

'Well might our hearts burn in us by the way
While Jesus spake,' the fond disciples say;
'How sweet was His discourse! we little thought
That it was He. How strange we knew Him not!

'But stranger far that we did not believe
That He would rise again! Could *He* deceive?
O no, He is the Faithful and the True,
And what He says He evermore will do.'

CHILD.

Were these their thoughts? And such too will be mine,
When I in glory see my Saviour shine.
For though I know He ever lives to save,
I sometimes doubt His word, and fear the grave.

## *LESSON XLVII.*

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### THOMAS.

JOHN, xx. 24 to end.

YOU have heard how the disciples saw Jesus in the evening.

One of the disciples was not there when Jesus came. His name was Thomas. I do not know why he was not there.

When the disciples saw Thomas next, they said to him, 'We have seen Jesus. On Sunday night we saw Him. He came into the room as we were sitting together, and He spoke to us. We are sure it was Jesus Himself, because He showed us the marks of the nails in His hands and feet, and the hole in His side where the spear went in.'

But Thomas would not believe the disciples. He said, 'I do not think you saw Jesus himself. He died upon the cross. I never will believe, except I put my fingers into the marks of the nails, and put my hand into the hole in His side.'

It was very wrong of Thomas to speak in this way He should have remembered that Jesus had promised to be alive again.

Jesus heard Thomas speak, though Thomas could not see Him. But Jesus was always with the disciples, and heard all they said, because He is God.

Next Sunday evening the disciples were in a room together. Thomas was there, too. The doors were locked to keep the wicked people out; but the disciples knew that Jesus could come in. And He did come. They saw Him standing in the middle of the room. He spoke kindly to them, and said, 'Peace be unto you!'

Then He spoke to Thomas. 'Come,' said He to Thomas, 'here are my hands; put your finger in the marks: and here is the hole in my side; put your hand in it.'

Now Thomas knew that Jesus had heard him speak so naughtily, and he felt ashamed and sorry.

He saw it was Jesus Himself, and he cried out, 'My Lord and my God!'

Then Jesus said to Thomas, 'Now you have seen, you believe. Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet have believed.'

Jesus quite forgave Thomas for what he had said, because Thomas really loved Jesus.

'And can the Lord be risen?'
  The doubting Thomas said;
'And has He broke the prison
  Where lately He was laid?
Unless I feel, unless I see,
I never can believe 'tis He.'

'Come, feel these wounded places,'
  To Thomas Jesus said;
'Come see the certain traces
  Of blood that I have shed.
Behold, I stand before your eye,
Oh! do you now believe 'tis I?'

CHILD.

My Lord, Thou still art living,
  And cloth'd in white array,
The Holy Spirit giving
  To all who humbly pray:
And though I neither feel nor see.
I still believe that Thou art He.

## *LESSON XLVIII.*

### THE DINNER.

JOHN, xxi. 1–19.

JESUS told His disciples to go a great way into the country, and He said, 'I will come and see you again.'

So the disciples went away from Jerusalem, and they went into the country. They came to the place where they had once lived, by the water-side. They had some ships on the water, and they used to catch fish when they were in the ships.

One night Peter said to the disciples, 'I shall go and fish;' and the disciples said, 'We will go with you.' So they got into a ship, and all night long they tried to catch fish, but they could not catch any.

In the morning they were tired and hungry.

They looked up, and saw a man standing near the water-side. They did not know who the man was.

The man called out to them and said, 'Children, have you anything to eat?'

The poor disciples said, 'No;' for they had caught no fish all night.

The man said, 'Let down your net on the right side of the ship, and you shall find some fish.'

They did as the man told them, and they caught such a number of fishes in the net, that they could hardly lift it out of the water.

Now John found out who the man was: he said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.'

Peter was very glad, and he jumped into the water, and swam first to Jesus. The other disciples came soon after in their little ship, with their nets and their fishes.

Jesus knew that they were tired and hungry. By the water-side there was a fire, and some fish on the fire, and some bread. How kind it was of Jesus to give some food to His poor hungry disciples!

Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fishes that you have caught.' So Peter went and took up the net and found it full of great fishes: one hundred and fifty-three.

This was a great miracle that Jesus had done.

Then said Jesus to the disciples, 'Come and dine.' So they all sat down to dine together. Then Jesus took the bread, and gave some to each; and He took the fish, and gave some of it to each.

Now the disciples were quite sure that it was Jesus who was feeding them. This was the way they used to dine together before Jesus had died. Now He was alive, they dined together again: but they knew He was not going to stay long with them.

When they had all finished eating, Jesus said to Peter, 'Do you love me?'

Peter said, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.'

Then Jesus said, 'Feed my lambs,' (that is, 'Teach other people to love me. Go and tell people about my dying for them').

You, my little children, are Christ's lambs, and I feed you when I talk to you about Christ. I feed your souls, and the food is the love of Jesus.

Peter did love Jesus, and Jesus knew he did. Yet Jesus said again, 'Do you love me?' Peter said again, 'Lord, you know I love you.' Then Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep.'

Jesus asked Peter once more the same thing, 'Do you love me?'

Peter was afraid Jesus did not believe him, and this made him sorry. He said, 'Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.'

Jesus said again, 'Feed my sheep.'

If Peter loved Jesus he would do what Jesus bade him, and go and teach people.

Do you love Jesus, my little children? What would you answer if Jesus said to you, 'Do you love me?' Could you say to Jesus, 'Look into my heart, and you will see that I love you?' If you do really love Him, you will hate lies and passions, and you will try to be kind and gentle, and to please Jesus all the day.

Why did Jesus ask Peter so often whether he loved Him? Why did He ask him three times over?

Peter had said he did not know Jesus three times over. So Jesus wanted to hear him say he loved Him three times over.

Then Jesus told Peter what would happen to him

when he was old. Jesus said to Peter, 'When you were young, you walked about where you liked; but when you are old some men will take you, and stretch out your hands, and carry you where you do not like to go.'

Jesus meant that Peter would be crucified; men would stretch out his hands on a cross, and nail him, as they had done Jesus. Wicked people would crucify Peter because he loved Jesus; but Peter would never say again that he did not know Jesus.

Peter was not proud now as he used to be. And Peter would pray to God to keep him from sin.

Death has not changed the Saviour's heart,
Behold those pierced hands impart
  The food they have prepar'd;
While seven disciples sit around,
Joying that they the Friend have found
  For whom they fondly car'd:—

Found Him as ready to forgive,
As when with them He used to live,
  Before His cruel death;
For they had fled when He was tried,
And Peter had his Lord denied
  With most unfaithful breath.

The Lord well knew that love inspir'd
His bosom: yet three times inquir'd,
  'Simon, dost thou love me?'
And Peter said, 'O Thou alone,
To whom all things are fully known,
  Thou know'st that I love Thee.'

And by what sign his faithful love
Shall Peter to his Saviour prove?
  'Oh! feed my lambs and sheep.'
And gladly this will Peter do,
That others may be pardon'd too,
  And taught from sin to keep.

O happy they who truly can
Entreat the Lord their heart to scan,
  And see their faithful love!
And happy they who still obey
His sweet commands, and what they say
  By faithful actions prove.

O blessed Lord! to whom alone
My sinful heart is fully known,
  Thou know'st if I love Thee.
Increase my love; for well I know
My fondest love I should bestow
  On Him who died for me.

JESUS ASCENDING INTO HEAVEN.

## *LESSON XLIX.*

### THE ASCENSION.

MATT. xxviii. 16 to end. LUKE, xxiv. 46 to end. ACTS, i. 4-14.

JESUS used to come and see His disciples after He was made alive again; but He did not live always with them, as He once had done.

He told them He was soon going up to His Father. 'When I am gone, you must tell people about me. You must tell the people who crucified me, that I will forgive them if they are sorry. The Holy Spirit will come down from heaven, for my Father has promised to send Him down soon: Wait at Jerusalem till He come. I will always be with you, though you do not see me. Some day I shall come back again.'

The disciples asked Jesus when He would come back; but Jesus would not tell them when.

One day Jesus and His disciples walked together to the top of a hill. Jesus began to pray with His disciples, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was doing this He was taken up to heaven, and a cloud hid Him at last from the eyes of His disciples. They still looked up, and saw the cloud go higher and higher till they could see it no more. But still they went

on looking. Then they heard some persons speaking to them; they looked to see who it was, and they saw two angels standing by them. The angels were dressed in white shining clothes. They said, 'Why do you look so long at the sky? Jesus will come some day again.' So the disciples went back to Jerusalem, to wait for the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps you think they were very unhappy, now Jesus was gone? No, they were not. They knew He was gone to get a place in heaven ready for them, and that they should live with Him for ever; and this made them glad.

Blessed Lord, I see Thee praying,
  While Thy friends around Thee stand,
Clouds I see Thy form conveying
  To Thy Father's own right hand.
Angels now Thy friends are cheering
  With bright hopes of Thy return:
Looking for Thy sweet appearing,
  Why should they Thine absence mourn?

CHILD.

Art Thou, Lord, for me preparing
  In Thy Father's house a place?
Thy sweet prayers I would be sharing,
  Lest I should forsake Thy ways.
Saviour dear, I long to see Thee
  On the clouds in glory ride,
From all sorrow come to free me,
  And to place me by Thy side.

## *LESSON L.*

### PETER IN PRISON.

Acts, ii. xii. 1-23.

WHAT had Jesus promised to send when He was gone back to His Father?

The Holy Spirit.

And He did send the Holy Spirit, as He had promised. Then the disciples began to speak of Jesus to all the wicked people.

They said to them, 'You have crucified the Son of God. He is alive, and is gone up to sit on His Father's throne; but He will forgive you, and give you the Holy Spirit.'

Some of the wicked people were sorry for what they had done to Jesus, and begged God to forgive them; and some of the wicked people were not sorry, but tried to kill the disciples.

A wicked king cut off the head of James with a sword, and then shut up Peter in prison, meaning to kill him soon.

Did you ever see a prison?

It is a dark place with great doors, and bars, and walls all round.

Some soldiers took Peter, and put chains on his hands, and chains on his feet, and they locked the door of the prison. Men sat at the door, that no one might get in.

Peter's friends were very unhappy because he was in prison; but they could not take him out. Yet there was one thing they could do; they could pray to God to save Peter, and so they did. Peter's friends sat up at night and prayed to God.

The wicked king said, 'To-morrow I shall have Peter killed.' But God would not let Peter be killed. So God told one of His beautiful angels to go and let Peter out of the prison. The angel could go into the prison without opening the doors.

It was night when the angel came. Peter was asleep. On each side of him there was a soldier, and Peter was chained to them both. You would not like to sleep in a prison with soldiers near you, and chains on your hands; but Peter knew that God loved him, and that he was safe.

So the angel came. It was dark in the prison.

Could Peter see the angel?

Yes; for the angel was bright like the sun, and made the prison light.

The angel touched Peter on the side, and lifted him up, and the chains fell off Peter's hands.

He told Peter to put on his clothes; and Peter did so. Then said the angel, 'Follow me.' So the angel walked first, and Peter followed him. They went through the prison; but the men at the doors did not see Peter go out, for God made them sleep.

PETER DELIVERED BY AN ANGEL.

Peter was quite surprised; he thought he was dreaming, and that he did not see a real angel.

At last Peter came to a great iron gate. It was fast locked; but the angel took no key to open it. It opened of itself, and let Peter and the angel go through.

Now they were in the street. Still the angel went on, and Peter came after him; but they did not speak a word.

All the people were asleep, and did not know that a bright angel was walking in the street. The angel only walked down one street, and then he went back to heaven, and left Peter standing alone in the street, in the dark.

Peter stood some time thinking to himself, 'What a wonderful thing has happened! I was shut up in prison; but God has sent His angel to let me out. The king meant to kill me to-morrow, but now I shall not be killed.'

I know that Peter thanked God for His kindness. Peter did not stay all night in the street. He went to the house of a good woman whom he knew, and he knocked at the door.

Were the people in the house asleep?

No, they were all awake, though it was night.

Why were they not in bed?

This good woman had heard how the king would kill Peter to-morrow; so she and her friends were praying for Peter, and while they were praying they heard a knock: it was a strange thing to hear a knock in the night; but they never guessed who it was.

A maid named Rhoda went to the door, but she was afraid to open it, lest it should be some of the wicked

people come to kill the poor woman and her friends; so she stopped at the door without opening it, to hear who it was: but when she heard Peter speak, how much pleased she was! she knew his voice. She did not say, 'Are you Peter?' She was sure it was Peter. She was so much surprised that she forgot to open the door; but ran back to her mistress and the rest of the disciples, and said, 'Peter is standing before the gate;' but they said, 'No, it cannot be Peter; he is shut up in prison.'

The maid said, 'It is Peter; I am sure it is.'

While they were talking, Peter was standing outside, and he went on knocking, because nobody opened the door. Soon his friends ran and opened the door, and when they saw Peter they were quite surprised.

'How did you get out of prison?' they said.

Then Peter made a sign with his hand to make them all quiet, that he might tell them how he got out of prison.

'God sent an angel,' said Peter, 'who brought me out of the prison. Go and tell all my friends what has happened, for I must go away.' So Peter went and hid himself in a place where the wicked king could not find him.

What do you think the soldiers said when they could not find Peter in the morning?

They were much frightened: they saw his chains, but not Peter. They found the gates locked; they could not think how Peter had got out of prison.

So the king sent for Peter. This was the day when

Peter was to be killed. All the wicked people in Jerusalem were expecting to see him. The king's servants said, 'Where is Peter? bring him out.'

The soldiers answered, 'We cannot tell where Peter is: he is gone.'

The servants went and told the king that Peter was not in prison. The king was very angry; he said, 'Bring the soldiers to me. They must have fallen asleep.'

When the soldiers came, they could not tell the king how Peter had got away. For God had made them sleep when the angel fetched Peter. The king was in a great rage, and said, 'The soldiers must be killed.'

What a wicked king this was! He loved to do wickedness. He was very proud, and hated God and God's people. He fell into passions, and only cared to please himself. At last God sent an angel to kill him, and worms ate up his flesh until he died.

God sends angels to punish the wicked, and to help people who love Him as Peter did.

'Awake,' the angel cries; and from the hands
Of wondering Peter fall the iron bands;
The gates fly open of their own accord,
And Peter is to liberty restor'd.

His guide he follows through the gloom of night
(Where angels are there needs no other light);
The angel's gone, and Peter, left alone,
Sees and admires the love his God has shown.

At yonder gate he knocks; thence prayer ascends,
On this sad night, from Peter's sorrowing friends:
With glad surprise the maiden hears his voice;
All round him flock, and with one heart rejoice.

CHILD.

So, when my body dies, shall angels guide
My happy soul to my dear Father's side:
To meet me at the gate shall angels throng,
With joy shall tune their harps and raise their song.

## *LESSON LI.*

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### JOHN.

REV. i. 9–19; iv. 1–5; xxii.

ALMOST all the twelve disciples were killed by wicked men at last. When Peter was old, some wicked men crucified him, because he loved Jesus. Now he is in heaven with Jesus, clothed in a white robe, and all his tears wiped away. His dear Lord Jesus is always near him, and this makes him happy.

John lived till he was very, very old, indeed. A wicked king caught him, and put him into a country far away from his friends: there was water all round, so that he could not get away.

Was John unhappy there?

No; God was with him, and John loved to think of the Father, and of His Son Jesus.

It was Sunday, and John was thinking of God, when he heard a voice behind him, like the noise of a trumpet, very loud indeed. He turned round to see who it was; and whom do you think he saw?

The Lord Jesus come down from heaven, all glorious and shining! When John saw Him, he could not speak or stand; he was afraid, and he fell down on the ground,

as if he were dead. But Jesus touched him with His hand and said, 'Fear not; I am He that liveth and was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore.' Then Jesus took John up into heaven, and an angel showed him most beautiful things.

John saw a throne on which God sat. There was a rainbow round the throne. There were a great many seats, and men sitting on them, clothed in white, with crowns of gold on their heads. The men took off their crowns, and threw them down before the throne and praised Jesus, the Lamb of God.

John saw a great many angels, more than he could count, standing round the throne, singing praises to the Lamb.

But of all the things John saw in heaven, there was nothing so glorious as God Himself.

In heaven there is no sun, nor moon, nor candle, nor lamp. Yet it is always light, because God shines more brightly than the sun. The music of harps and sweet singing are always to be heard; for all the angels can sing the praises of God.

John wondered at the things he saw and heard; and he fell down at the feet of the angel who had shown them to him.

But the angel said, 'You must not worship me; I am only a servant of God: you must worship God.'

Then the angel went on speaking and said, 'Jesus will soon come down from Heaven to judge the world. He will open the gates of heaven to let those people in who

mind God's word; but those who tell lies, and do wicked things, shall be shut out.'

All people who love Jesus wish Him to come again in the clouds.

Do you wish to see Jesus, my little children?

Then you may answer, 'Even so; come, Lord Jesus.'

I hope that when you die your spirit will go to Jesus, and that when Jesus comes again, He will bring you with Him.

John wrote down in a book the things he had seen in heaven. All that John wrote is in the Bible. At last John died, and his soul went to God. He is with Jesus now in heaven. He is now playing on a golden harp, and singing with the angels. But when Jesus comes again in the clouds, John will come with Him.*

When John was by the angel led
  To the bright world on high,
He saw what joys await the dead
  When up to heaven they fly.

He saw them round the Father's throne,
  Gazing upon His face,
Singing to harps of sweetest tone
  The praises of His grace.

He saw them cloth'd in robes of white,
  Such as the angels wear,
Shining like stars of morning bright,
  And like the angels fair.

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* 'Them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.' 1 Thess. iv. 14.

He saw the city where they dwelt;
  (Whose praises can't be told;)
The walls of precious stones were built,
  The streets were purest gold.

He saw the Lamb whose blood was spill'd
  To give His people rest:
With His bright beams the place was filled,
  And every heart was blest.

Charm'd with the sight, John bent his knee
  Before that angel fair,
Who said, 'Thou must not worship me:
  To God address thy prayer.'

## CHILD.

'Tis God who rules th' angelic host
  In the fair world of light;
'Tis God who shuts the spirits lost
  In realms of endless night.

O let me then this God implore
  To pardon all my sin,
And ope to me the heavenly door,
  And bid me enter in.

I know there's room enough for all
  Who truly wish to come!
So God I will my Father call,
  And that sweet place my home.

## *LESSON LII.*

### THE JUDGMENT-DAY.

1 THESS. iv. 15–17. REV. xx. 11 to end.

YOU know that Jesus will come again in the clouds? Little children, do you know when He will come? Shall I tell you when Jesus will come? You would like to know; but I cannot tell you when: I do not know. The angels do not know what day it will be. No one knows but God.* There will be many wicked people in the world then, and some good people.† An angel will blow a great trumpet, and Jesus will say to the people who are dead, 'Come out of your graves.'

The bodies of all the dead people will come out of their graves.‡ Those who love Christ will be like the angels, and will fly up into the air. If you are alive when Jesus comes, He will catch you up into the air to meet Him.

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* 'But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.' Matt. xxiv. 36.

† 'Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh shall he find faith on the earth?' Luke, xviii. 8. 'So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just.' Matt. xiii. 49.

‡ 'The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth.' John, v. 28.

As soon as you see Jesus you will be like Him, all shining and glorious. Jesus will be king over the whole world, and make all people happy.*

At last Jesus will sit upon a white throne, and everybody will stand round His throne. He will open some books, in which He has written down all the naughty things people have done. God has seen all the naughty things you have done. He can see in the dark as well as in the light, and knows all your naughty thoughts. He will read everything out of His books before the angels that stand around. Yet God will forgive some people, because Christ died upon the cross.

Whom will He forgive?

Those who love Jesus with all their hearts.† He has written down their names in another book, called 'The Book of Life.' He will forgive their sins, wipe away their tears, and let them live with Him for ever.

Do you hope that Jesus has written down your name in His book?

Ask Him to give you His Holy Spirit. Then you will love Jesus, and hate to do wickedly.

This is what God will do to those who do not love Him,‡—God will bind them in chains, and put them in a

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* Psalm lxxii.

† 'The kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him.' Jam. ii. 5.

‡ 'If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maran-atha' (or accursed). 1 Cor. xvi. 22.

lake of fire. There they will gnash their teeth, and weep and wail for ever.*

God will put Satan in the same place, and all the devils.† Satan is the father of the wicked, and he and his children shall be tormented for ever. They shall not have one drop of water to cool their burning tongues.

Many people in hell will say, 'How I wish I had listened to the words of my teachers! But I would not mind; and now it is too late. I never can come out of this dreadful place. How foolish I have been! Once God would have heard my prayers, but now I weep and wail in vain.'‡

I hope, my dear children, that none of you will ever speak such sad words.

Remember Satan goes about as a cunning serpent, trying to make you disobey God; but Christ will keep you from wickedness, if you pray to Him.

One day God will burn up this world we live in. It is dreadful to see a house on fire. Did you ever see one?

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* 'Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Matt. xxii. 13.

† 'Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.' Matt. xxv. 41.

‡ 'And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, and say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof, and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers!' Prov. v. 11-13.

But how dreadful it will be to see this great world and all the houses and trees burning! The noise will be terrible: the heat will be very great.* The wicked will not be able to get away.† They will be cast into the lake of fire. The world will not burn for ever; God will make another world, much better than this.‡

If you are God's child, you will not be frightened when the world is burning: for you will be safe with Jesus, praising Him for having loved and saved you.§

How oft behind yon hill
  The sun has hid his face!
How oft return'd to fill
  With joyful light the place!
And shall the sun for ever thus return?
Shall morn succeed to eve, and eve to morn?

Oh no! the day shall come,
  (And who can tell how soon!)
When dark shall be that sun,
  And red the silver moon:
When sun or moon shall never more return,
But God on clouds shall come the world to burn.

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* 'The heavens shall pass away with a great *noise*, and the elements shall melt with fervent *heat:* the earth also, and the works that are therein, shall be burned up.' 2 Pet. iii. 10.

† 'The heavens and the earth which are now, are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of *ungodly men.*' 2 Pet. iii. 7.

‡ 'We look for new heavens, and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.' 2 Pet. iii. 13.

§ 2 Thess. i. 6–10.

Oh! say shall I be there,
To see the dreadful glare,
The dreadful sound to hear,
The dreadful heat to bear,
Of falling crags and rocks, of roaring seas,
Of smoking hills, and flaming earth and skies?

Oh! yes, I shall be there;
The graves shall open'd be;
*All* shall the trumpet hear,
The Judge's face shall see:
In vain shall some upon the mountains call,
To hide their heads from Him who judges all.

The books shall then be read,
In which our God has wrote
All that we ever said,
Or ever did or thought;
And many cheeks with burning shame shall glow,
And many souls be plunged in deepest woe.

And how shall I escape
From endless misery?
My sins, a mighty heap,
Show I deserve to die.
And yet to think upon that burning lake
Makes my flesh tremble, and my bones to shake.

Lord! by the blood He shed
Who hung upon the tree,
*Before* the books are read,
May my sins pardon'd be!
And then my tears shall all be wiped away,
And I shall dwell in everlasting day.

# A FEW HINTS

TO

## INEXPERIENCED TEACHERS,

RESPECTING

## THE QUESTIONS AFFIXED TO THE LESSONS.

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SOMETIMES teachers find it difficult to obtain answers from their little pupils. The following questions are therefore extremely easy; for a *first* step must be made very easy, as children often remain in ignorance for years, because the first step is too high.

Notwithstanding every effort, a class of ignorant little children will appear, during a few lessons, *inaccessible* to instruction; but if the teacher will patiently *repeat* the first lesson *several* times, the difficulty will disappear, and the wearisome task will gradually become delightful.

An account unprompted by questions is the most desirable, when it can be obtained; but it must not be expected at first.

When once the children can be induced to repeat of their own accord the substance of their instructions, questions should only be used to remind them of things they have omitted.

How is a voluntary account to be obtained? At first the

teacher should talk over *immediately* afterwards the lesson she has given to her class. Let her say to the children before she leaves them—'What shall you answer, when I ask you to-morrow what I have been telling you to-day?' The children will probably answer, 'About God,' or 'About Jesus.' But if the teacher replies, 'But *what* about God? for I always tell you about Him,' a more definite answer will soon be obtained. In a short time the children will never fail to remember the subject of the last lesson. One child will probably lead the way; the rest will improve by listening to it: another child will soon be roused, and then another, till at length, a general interest being excited, it will become the anxious desire of all to speak.

There are, however, many children who seek to impose, by repeating what another has just said, with a view to attract attention. Such repeaters should of course be discouraged.

When a class of several children continue indifferent and inattentive, is there not reason to suspect that a right method of instruction has not been adopted?

As it cannot be supposed that little children will give orderly accounts, or each in its own turn, it is often difficult to gain a fair hearing for each child. It will be found necessary to allow one to interrupt another after the other has spoken a short time. Sometimes, however, it may be as well, at the close of the accounts, to ask each child one question in turn, and to desire the others to preserve silence.

# QUESTIONS ON THE LESSONS.

## I.

WHY does the sun not fall from the sky?
What does God give you every moment?
What are the four things that are called your body?
How might your body be hurt?
Who can keep it from being hurt?

## II.

What was it your mother did for you when you were a baby?
Does your mother make you breathe, and keep you alive?
Why did God give you a mother?
What should you say to God for giving you a mother?

## III.

What other things have bodies, as well as you?
Are their bodies like yours?
What have you besides a body?
Why cannot dogs and horses think of God?
Is your soul better than your body?
Why?
What is your body made of?
What is your soul made of?
Where will your body be put when you die?
Where do you hope that your soul will go?

## IV.

Who live with God in heaven?
What are the angels always doing?
Why are they always happy?
Why do angels come down here?
What is it the angels do for children who love God, when they die?
Can you make yourself good?

## V.

Did the angels always live in heaven?
Who has lived always?
Why did God cast some of the angels out of heaven?
What is the name of the prince of the bad angels?
Why does Satan walk about here?
Can you keep yourselves from Satan?

## VI.

What is this place that we live in called?
Who was always in heaven with God?
Is Jesus Christ the same as God?
How did God make this world?
What was the first thing that God made?
What is that you can feel, but cannot see?
What is the water in the sky called?
What is the name of the large deep place full of water?
What do we walk upon?
What are the first five things that God made?

## VII.

How many different sorts of things grow out of the ground?

Tell me the names of some trees—of some vegetables—of some kinds of corn—of some flowers.

What bright things did God put in the sky?

How many stars are there?

## VIII.

How many sorts of living things did God make?

Tell me the name of some fishes—of some birds—of some insects—of some beasts.

## IX.

What was the last thing that God made?

How did God make Adam?

Where did God put Adam?

What did God give him?

Why did God make Eve?

How did He make her?

How many days was God in making the world?

Tell me the names of all the things God made.

## X.

What did God tell Adam and Eve not to do?

Who asked Eve to eat the fruit?

Why did he ask her?

What lie did the serpent tell to Eve?

Were Adam and Eve good after they had eaten the fruit?

Why did they hide themselves under the trees?

What did God say should be done to Adam and Eve, to punish them?

Who drove them out of the garden?

## XI.

Were Adam and Eve happy after they had eaten the fruit?

Why not?
Who took pity upon them?
What did God desire His Son to do for Adam?
What did God's Son say to His Father, when He told Him to be a man and die?
Are we some of Adam's children?
Did the Son of God die for *us?*
Where should we go when we died, if Jesus had not died for us?
Did Jesus come down into the world as *soon* as Adam had grown wicked?
Did he wait a *long* while, or a *little* while?

## XII.

Did Adam and Eve *know* that God would send His Son to die for them?
Could God make Adam and Eve good again?
How could they be made good?
What must you ask for, if you wish to be good?
When did God send His Son down into the world?
Whose little baby did God's Son choose to be?
Who told her she should have a little baby?
What name did the angel say she was to give her baby?
What did Mary do when the angel was gone back to heaven?

## XIII.

What was the name of Mary's husband?
Why did Mary and Joseph take a long journey a great way off?
What is the name of the town they came to?
Did they sleep in the inn at night?
Why not?
Where did they sleep?
What baby was born while Mary was in the stable?
Did Mary know it was the Son of God?

Where did she lay her baby?
What did she wrap it in?
Did Jesus look like other babies?
Was His heart like other babies' hearts?

## XIV.

Who were in the fields near Bethlehem the night Jesus was born?
Why did the shepherds sit up at night?
What did they see in the sky?
What did the angels tell them?
Who sang songs in the sky?
When the angels were gone, where did the shepherds go?
Did the shepherds tell people what they had seen?

## XV.

Who came from a great way off to see Jesus?
Who told them that God had sent His Son to be a baby?
How did they find the way to Bethlehem?
What did they bring with them?
Where did the star stop?
What did the wise men do when they saw Jesus?

## XVI.

Who wanted to kill Jesus when He was a baby?
Were there many babies in Bethlehem?
Did King Herod know *which* baby was the Son of God?
Whom did Herod desire to be killed?
Did he kill Jesus?
Why not?
Who told Joseph to take Jesus a great way off?
Did Herod know that Jesus was gone away?
Did Herod think that he had killed Jesus?

Whom did Herod send to kill the babies in Bethlehem?
Did Jesus ever come back to His own country?
Who told Joseph to take Jesus back to His country?
Why might Jesus be taken back to His own country?
What was Joseph's trade?
Did the people love Jesus when He was a child?
Why did they love Him?

## XVII.

When Jesus grew to be a man, where did He go by Himself?
Were there beasts in the wilderness?
How many days was Jesus there?
What did He eat?
Who came to Him at last?
Why did Satan come?
What did Satan ask Jesus to do first?
Why would not Jesus turn the stones into bread?
What did Satan ask Jesus to do when he had taken Him to the top of a high building?
Why would not Jesus throw Himself down?
What did Satan show Jesus from the top of a hill?
What did Satan say Jesus must do, if He would have all these fine things?
Would Jesus do this?
Who fed Jesus after Satan had gone away?
What harm does Satan want to do to children, and to all people?

## XVIII.

Where used Jesus to preach?
How many disciples had Jesus?
Did they ever quarrel?
Can you tell me the names of some of them?
What was Peter doing when Jesus told him to come with Him?
What were James and John doing when Jesus called them?

Why did Jesus choose to have some friends always with Him?
What did they call Jesus?
What did He call them?
Did they love Jesus?
Why did they like being with Him?
Did Jesus give them money or fine things?
Why were the disciples good?

## XIX.

When Jesus was at the feast, what was it that was all drunk up very soon?
How did Jesus make more wine?
What was the first miracle Jesus did?

## XX.

Why did sick and blind people come to Jesus?
How did He cure one blind man?
How did He cure a deaf and dumb man?
What did He say to a man who was ill in bed?
What did He say to the woman whose back was bent?
What could Jesus do that was more wonderful than making sick people well?
When Jesus was walking in the road, what did He see being carried by some men?
Who was crying very much because the man was dead?
What did Jesus say to the dead man?
What did the men do?
What did the people say when they saw the dead man come to life?

## XXI.

How did the rich man behave to Jesus, when he asked Him to dine with him?
What did the naughty woman do to Jesus?

Why did she love Jesus so very much?
Why did Jesus forgive her all her naughtiness?
Will Jesus forgive you your naughtiness, if you are sorry?

## XXII.

What made the disciples afraid once, when they were in a ship?
Was it wrong of them to be afraid?
What did Jesus say to the wind, and to the water?
What did the disciples say when they saw the wind and the water obey Jesus?

## XXIII.

Did Jesus ever make a dead child alive again?
Who were sitting round a bed when Jesus came?
Why did Jesus say that the girl was asleep?
What did Jesus do to the people who laughed at Him?
Whom did Jesus allow to stay in the room?
How old was the girl?

## XXIV.

Did any people come to hear Jesus preach?
Why did Jesus not like to send them home at night?
How many loaves and fishes did Jesus feed them with?
Who gave the people the bread and fish?
Did the people leave any of the bread?
Where were the little pieces of bread put?
What does God make grow in the fields?
Could your mother give you bread, if God did not make the corn grow?
Does God feed any other creatures besides men, women, and children?
Why does God take more care of you than of the birds?

## XXV.

Were the disciples as kind as Jesus?

How did they behave to a poor woman who wanted Jesus to help her?

What did they say to the poor women who brought their children to Jesus?

What did Jesus say to the disciples when they were sending the children away?

What did Jesus do to the children when they were come to Him?

What sort of children does Jesus love?

Are there any children in heaven?

## XXVI.

Why did Jesus choose to be alone sometimes?

Did Jesus ever pray to His Father, when His disciples were with Him?

What did they ask Jesus to teach them?

What prayer did Jesus teach them?

What is the meaning of 'Hallowed be Thy name?'

What is the meaning of 'Trespasses?'

What must you ask God for, to make you good?

Will God give you the Spirit if you ask Him?

## XXVII.

Did Jesus know that the wicked people would soon kill Him?

To whom did Jesus talk about His dying?

Were they sorry?

Why did many people hate Jesus?

Who is the father of liars?

How did the wicked people try to kill Jesus?

Did Jesus let them kill Him?

Why did He hide Himself in a place a great way off?

## XXVIII.

Had Lazarus any sisters?
What were their names?
Did Jesus ever come to their house and dine?
When Lazarus was sick, was Jesus with him, or a great way off?
Was Lazarus dead before Jesus came?
Did Martha think that Jesus could make Lazarus alive again?
Why did Jesus sigh and weep?
Where was dead Lazarus put?
What did Jesus say to Lazarus?
What clothes did Lazarus wear in the grave?
What did the people think of Jesus when they saw Him make Lazarus alive again?

## XXIX.

What did some of the people in Jerusalem wish to do to Jesus?
Did Jesus walk or ride into Jerusalem?
Where did the disciples find an ass?
Why did so many of the people come to see Jesus when He was riding on the ass?
What did the people lay upon the road?
How did the little children make the proud men angry?

## XXX.

Where was the temple?
What used people to do in it?
Did Jesus go there often?
Who used to come there to laugh at Jesus?
Where did Jesus go at night?
Why did not the wicked men take Jesus when He was in the temple?
Did the wicked men know where Jesus went at night?

## XXXI.

Did *all* Jesus' disciples love Him?
Did Judas say that he did not love Jesus?
Did the other disciples know that Judas did not love Jesus?
Did Jesus know it?
Was Judas a thief?
What did Judas love better than anything else?
What did Judas promise the wicked people he would do, if they would give him money?
How much money did they promise to give him?
Did Jesus know that Judas meant to show the wicked people where He was at night?

## XXXII.

Had Jesus any house in Jerusalem?
How did He get a room to eat supper in with His disciples, before He died?
Whom did He send to find the room?
How did Peter and John find out which house they were to go to?
What things were in the room?
Who sat next to Jesus at supper?
How many people were at the supper?
Why did Jesus pour water into a basin?
Why did not Peter like Jesus to wash his feet?
Had Jesus made His disciples' hearts clean?
Was Judas' heart clean?
Why did Jesus wash His disciples' feet?
What commandment did Jesus give to His disciples?

## XXXIII.

What did Jesus say, at supper, that one of His disciples would do?
Who asked Jesus to tell him which it was?

Who dipped his hand in the dish with Jesus?
Why did Judas go out of the room?
What did the disciples think he was going to do?

## XXXIV.

What did Jesus break into pieces and give to His disciples?
What did He give them to drink?
What was the bread like?
What was the wine like?
Where did Jesus go after supper?
What did He tell His disciples as He walked along the road?
What did Peter say he would do, if Jesus was killed or taken prisoner?
What did Jesus tell Peter that he would say?
Where would Jesus go after He was killed?
Would Jesus forget His disciples when He was in heaven?
What did Jesus say He would send into their hearts?
Where did Jesus take His disciples?

## XXXV.

When Jesus was in the garden, did He take *all* His disciples with Him to another part of the garden?
How many did He take with Him?
What did Jesus tell them to do, while He was praying?
What did Jesus pray to His Father about?
Was He very unhappy?
Did Peter, and James, and John pray, while Jesus was praying?
How many times did Jesus come back to Peter, and John, and James?
Who came from heaven to comfort Him?
Who came into the garden at last?
Why did Judas kiss Jesus?

Did Jesus know why Judas kissed Him?
What kind of name did Jesus call Judas?
Did Jesus run away from the wicked men?
Who made the wicked people fall down upon the ground?
Did they get up again soon?
Did the disciples run away?
What did Peter cut off with his sword?
Did Jesus wish Peter to fight for Him?
What was it Jesus did to the man's ear?
Where did the wicked people take Jesus?
What was Jesus like, when He went so meekly with them?

## XXXVI.

Had the proud men gone to the garden *themselves*, or had they sent their servants?
What had they been doing all night?
When Jesus came to Jerusalem, where did He stand?
Did they ask Him if He were the Son of God?
Did He say that He was?
What did the wicked, proud men say must be done to Jesus?
Where was Peter all this time?
Could Peter see Jesus?
Did Peter wish people to know that He was one of Jesus' disciples?
Why not?
Did any one ask Peter who He was?
What did Peter say?
How many times did people ask Peter who he was?
What did Peter hear that made him feel how naughty he had been?
What was it Peter did, after Jesus had looked on him?
Did Peter really love Jesus?
Who had often prayed for Peter?
Did Satan have his soul at last?

## XXXVII.

Did Jesus stand a long time before the wicked people?
How did one of the servants behave to Him?
When did the wicked men take Him to the judge?
What did the servants put over His face?
Where was the judge sitting?
What was the judge's name?
Did the judge wish to hurt Jesus?
What did the wicked people say that Jesus had called Himself?
*Was* He a King?
What is scourging?
Why did the soldiers laugh at Him?
What clothes did they put on Him?
What did they put on His head?
What did they put in His hand?
What is a sceptre?
Why did Pilate tell the wicked people to look at Jesus?
Did the people make a great noise?
What did Pilate at last say should be done to Jesus?
*Why* did Pilate allow Jesus to be crucified?

## XXXVIII.

Was Judas happy when he got the thirty pieces of silver?
What did he do with them?
How did Judas kill himself?
Where is Judas now?

## XXXIX.

Who carried Jesus' cross?
Could Jesus carry it quite by Himself?
Who came after Jesus, crying, because He was going to die?

What did Jesus say to these kind women?
What did the wicked men do to Jesus when He came to the top of the hill?
Who took Jesus' clothes?
Did they tear them all?
Whom did Jesus ask His Father to forgive?
Should we forgive people who are unkind to us?

## XL.

What did Pontius Pilate write upon the cross?
Did the wicked people come to see Jesus upon the cross?
What did they say to Jesus?
Why did Jesus not come down from the cross?
How many people were crucified with Jesus?
Did both the thieves go to heaven?
What did one of the thieves ask Jesus to do?
Did he ask Jesus to save him from dying on the cross?

## XLI.

Where was Jesus' mother, Mary, when He was on the cross?
Who stood near Mary?
Who took care of her after Jesus was crucified?
What did the soldiers give Jesus to drink?
What did Jesus say just before He died?
What o'clock was it when Jesus died?
What frightened the people just before He died?

## XLII.

How did the soldiers kill the thieves?
Why did they kill them so soon?
Why did not the soldiers break the legs of Jesus?
What did they put into the side of Jesus?

What is a spear?
What came out of His side?
What had Jesus poured out once at supper, and said, 'This is my blood?'
Why did Jesus shed His blood on the cross?

## XLIII.

Who put Jesus into his own grave?
Where was the grave?
Whom did Joseph ask to let him have Jesus' body?
What did Joseph wrap it in?
What did he put round Jesus' head and waist?
What was put before the grave?
Did any one see where Jesus was laid?
What did the women make when they went home?

## XLIV.

When did the women come to the grave?
Why did they come?
Who rolled away the large stone?
How did the angels look?
Were the women pleased when they saw them?
What did the angels tell the women?
To whom did the women run to tell what they had seen?
Whom did the women see as they went along?
What did the women do when they saw Jesus?
Had Jesus forgiven His disciples for having left Him alone?
Did the disciples believe that the women had seen Jesus?

## XLV.

How many Marys have I told you of?
Who came very early to the grave of Jesus?

What two disciples ran to the grave of Jesus?
Which came there first?
Which of them went into the grave first?
What did Peter and John see in the grave?
Did John believe that Jesus was alive again?
Did Peter and John see Jesus or angels?
Who stood alone, crying, by the grave?
What did she see when she looked in?
Why did Mary Magdalene cry?
Who was the man who spoke to her kindly?
Was He the gardener?
Did Jesus stay with Mary?
Who was the first person that saw Jesus after He was alive again?

## XLVI.

On what day did Jesus come out of His grave?
What were two good men doing that evening?
What were they talking about?
Who came and walked with them?
Did they know that Jesus was with them?
What did Jesus talk to them about?
Did Jesus come into the house of the two good men?
When did they find out who He was?
Did Jesus stay in the room?
Did the good men stay in their own house that night?
Where did they go?
Who came into the room though the door was locked?
What did Jesus show to all His disciples?
Were the disciples sure that Jesus was the same Jesus?
What did Jesus eat?

## XLVII.

Which of the disciples would not believe that Jesus was alive again?

What did Thomas say he must do, before he would believe?
When did Thomas see Jesus again?
What did Jesus say to him when He saw him?
Did Thomas believe *then* that Jesus was alive?

## XLVIII.

Did the disciples stay in Jerusalem, or did they go into the country?
Why did they go in boats one night?
Could they catch any fish?
Who spoke to them in the morning?
What did He tell them to do?
Which of the disciples knew first that it was Jesus speaking to them?
Which of them jumped into the water and swam to Jesus?
What did the disciples find ready for them when they were come to Jesus?
Had they caught any fishes in the net?
What question did Jesus ask Peter three times?
What did Jesus desire Peter to do, if he really loved Him?
How can children show that they really love Jesus?
What did Jesus tell Peter that wicked men would do to Him one day?
Can you tell me a verse about loving Jesus?

## XLIX.

Did Jesus live always with His disciples after He was alive again, or did He only come to see them sometimes?
What did Jesus tell His disciples to do when He was gone back to His Father?
Did He tell them when He should come back?
What was Jesus doing just before He went away in the cloud?
Who spoke to the disciples as they were looking at the cloud?

Were the disciples unhappy when Jesus was gone?
Why were they not unhappy?

## L.

What did the disciples tell the wicked people in Jerusalem?
Were any of the wicked people who had killed Jesus, sorry for their wickedness?
What happened to James at last?
Where was Peter shut up?
What used Peter's friends to do for him when he was in prison?
Who came to Peter one night?
How did Peter get loose from his chains?
How did he get through the great doors?
Where did the angel leave Peter standing alone?
Where did Peter go then?
What were the people in the house doing when Peter knocked?
Why was the maid afraid to open the door?
How did she know at last that it was Peter knocking?
Why did she not open the door?
What did Peter tell all the friends when he had made them quiet?
Where did Peter go then?
Why were the soldiers frightened in the morning?
Why did the wicked king send for Peter?
What did the king desire to be done to the soldiers?
How did God punish this wicked king at last?

## LI.

Where was John shut up alone?
Who came to see John when he was alone?
What did Jesus show him?

Whom did he see sitting round God's throne?
How many angels did he see?
What makes heaven always light?
When John fell down at the angel's feet, what did the angel say?
What will Jesus do when He comes again?
Who wrote down about heaven and the angels in a book?

## LII.

When will the last day come?
What great noise will there be at the last day?
What will Jesus say to the dead people?
What will be done to the bodies of people who love Jesus?
Where will Jesus sit?
What has Jesus written down in His books?
Whose sins will Jesus forgive?
Where has He written down their names?
Where will God put the wicked?
Who will torment them for ever?

# VERSES OF SCRIPTURE.

A VERSE applicable to each Scripture Lesson has been selected, with the intention of its being committed to memory by the child after each Lesson. Very young children will not be able to learn these verses till the second time of going through the Lessons.

Titles of an explanatory kind are prefixed rather than questions, because the Scripture words would not form *direct* answers.

Children should not be required to name the part of Scripture whence the words are taken.

1. *All comes from God.*

God giveth to all life and breath, and all things.—*Acts*, xvii. 25.

2. *We should thank God.*

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good.—*Ps.* cxxxvi. 1.

3. *What becomes of us when we die?*

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.—*Eccles.* xii. 7.

4. *God bids His angels take care of us.*

He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.—*Ps.* xci. 11.

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5. *God punished the wicked angels.*

God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness.—2 *Pet.* ii. 4.

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6. *How the light was made.*

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.—*Gen.* i. 3.

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7. *How wise God is.*

He telleth the number of the stars: he calleth them all by their names.—*Ps.* cxlvii. 4.

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8. *God is kind to birds and beasts.*

He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.—*Ps.* cxlvii. 9.

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9. *How beautiful the world was at first.*

And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.—*Gen.* i. 31.

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10. *How sin came into the world.*

By one man sin came into the world.—*Rom.* v. 12.

11. *Who sent us a Saviour.*

The Father sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world.—1 *John*, iv. 14.

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12. *Why Christ came.*

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.—1 *Tim.* i. 15.

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13. *About Mary and the Lord Jesus.*

And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.—*Luke*, ii. 7.

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14. *What the shepherds did.*

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.—*Luke*, ii. 16.

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15. *The Great King.*

God is the king of all the earth: sing ye praises.—*Ps.* xlvii. 7.

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16. *Who can help us always.*

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.—*Ps.* cxxi. 2.

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17. *The devil is cruel.*

The devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.—1 *Pet.* v. 8.

18. *Christ was very poor.*

Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.—*Luke*, ix. 58.

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19. *What the Father gave to the Son.*

The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.—*John*, iii. 35.

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20. *The wonders that Jesus did.*

He maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.—*Mark*, ii. 37.

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21. *God is merciful.*

Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.—*Ps.* lxxxvi. 5.

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22. *What the disciples said of Jesus after the storm.*

He commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.—*Luke*, viii. 25.

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23. *God does everything.*

The Lord killeth and maketh alive: He bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.—1 *Sam.* ii. 6.

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24. *The way in which God feeds men and beasts.*

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the

service of man; that he may bring forth food out of the earth.—*Ps.* civ. 14.

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25. *What Jesus said to His disciples when He called the children unto Him.*

But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.—*Luke,* xviii. 16.

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26. *When we should pray.*

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.—*Ps.* lv. 17.

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27. *Where Jesus came from, and where He went.*

I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again I leave the world, and go to the Father.—*John,* xvi. 28.

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28. *God's care of the righteous.*

The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.—*Ps.* xxxiv. 17.

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29. *The people who should praise God.*

Both young men and maidens, old men and children; let them praise the name of the Lord.—*Ps.* cxlviii. 12, 13.

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30. *Of wicked people's cruelty.*

The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.—*Ps.* xxxvii. 32.

31. *God can see all things.*

The darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day.—*Ps.* cxxxix. 12.

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32. *Christ's last command.*

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.—*John,* xv. 12.

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33. *God alone knows us quite.*

Thou only knowest the hearts of all the children of men.—1 *Kings,* viii. 39.

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34. *What Jesus said He would do for His disciples in heaven.*

I go to prepare a place for you.—*John,* xiv. 2.

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35. *How meek Jesus was when He died for us.*

He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.—*Isa.* liii. 7.

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36. *How Peter repented of his sin.*

And the Lord turned and looked upon Peter. And Peter went out and wept bitterly.—*Luke,* xxii. 61, 62.

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37. *How Jesus was treated before He died.*

I hid not my face from shame and spitting.—*Isa.* L. 6.

38. *The misery of the wicked.*

There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.—*Isa.* lvii. 21.

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39. *Jesus' prayer for those who crucified Him.*

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.—*Luke,* xxiii. 34.

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40. *What must we do, if we wish God to forgive us.*

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.—1 *John,* i. 9.

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41. *How Christ was treated when thirsty upon the cross.*

In my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.—*Ps.* lxix. 21.

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42. *What takes away sin.*

The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.—1 *John,* i. 7.

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43. *What became of Jesus' body after He was crucified.*

And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb.—*Matt.* xxvii. 59, 60.

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44. *Christ's own words after He rose from the dead.*

I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore.—*Rev.* i. 18.

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45. *The happiness of the righteous.*

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous.—*Ps.* xxxii. 11.

46. *How Jesus made His disciples know Him again after He was risen.*

He showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.—*John*, xx. 20.

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47. *How God always hears us speak.*

There is not a word in my tongue, but lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether.—*Ps.* cxxxix. 4.

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48. *Who loves Christ, and who does not.*

If a man love me he will keep my words. He that loveth me not, keepeth not my sayings.—*John*, xiv. 23, 24.

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49. *How Jesus left His disciples, after He had risen from the dead.*

And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.—*Luke*, xxiv. 51.

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50. *How the righteous are saved from danger.*

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.—*Ps.* xxxiv. 7.

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51. *Christ shall come again.*

Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him.—*Rev.* i. 7.

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52. *The happiness of heaven.*

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain.—*Rev.* xxi. 4.

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